By Sipra Dutt
Reva's sister. Calcutta.

THE ABANDONED.

It was summer. Signs of a nor'wester were writ on the sky. Leaves and branches of the trees around were being sent flying like unwieldy birds over the fields by the strong gale. Rumbling sounds and lightening pencils had, as if, usurped the sky. Clouds on clouds were moving fast towards north-west to make the dark horizon darker still. An elderly lady seated in a first class coupe of a stationary train seemed unconcerned at the nature's fury. Very fair was her complexion, tall and slim her eyes and lashes were tender and broad, peace and tranquility reigned serene on her face. Some silvery grey were peeping from her head, the strong wind was playing with a tuft of her curly hairs. Dressed in scrupulously white save the black border of her sari and some simple gold ornaments round her hands. Her respectable appearance attracted everybody's attention. On her lap lay wide open a monthly magazine entitled " SUKTARA" . The last whistle blurtted out and the train emptied its stomach of the last puff of smoke in order to move on and instantly moved on. One young boy came running, as if gapping for breath, stood facing the coupe His eyes at once fell on the reservation card which made him to turn away but he could'not as the train had already taken motion. He dashed into it. While taking his load off his shoulder the boy excused himself saying "I have got in without your permission, could'nt help, as the train had moved and not an inch of accomodation is there in any other compartment.

But....

But I could ill afford to miss this train. I must get off, of course, if you mind. "Politely the lady replied "You need not bother. How is it that for want of accomodation you won't travel when this coupe is almost vacant. " The train was on full speed and the black column of smoke was travelling towards the space circling like a huge python. The boy muttered within " our Motherland is too exacting a Taskmaster" He heeded not if any body heard his mutterings or not. Suddenly the magazine lying on the lap of the lady caught his attention. Like a restless child he barraged her with vollies of questions. Is it a current one ? Do you like this paper ? Have you finished reading it ? May I glance over it once ? No sign of hesitation marred his boyish demand. The lady felt amused and passed the magazine on the the boy. He hurried through the contents and in a moment his face beamed up with joy. He said to himself "Here it's. Monobina Devi has written in this issue as well" That made the lady curious, she enquired "Do you know her"?

"Definitely was the firm and prompt reply. Of course , not by face but through her writings. How fondly I had wished to meet her. I like her writings. They touch me. I feel like they are nothing but the echoes of my own heart. I like her thoughts and the way of her expression. I hope you too like her writings. Don't you ?"

The simplicity of the boy impressed the lady and she also felt some pleasure within and added with a smile "Taste differs. You may like her writings but, my son, how can you expect that every body in the world would equally like hers ?

The feeling that some body on earth might not like Monobina's writings hurt the boy. It was unexpected. He kept mum for a minute then said " no I don't mean that. She is very popular now-a-days. Even her name is a poem. I hear that this is her pen-name. I know not her real name But people say that her life is full of sorrow and sufferings I wonder, how can such a life be so?

"Do you think, sorrow makes any discrimination?" Observed the lady. "It makes no distinction between rich and poor, good and bad. She may be a good writer. Nevertheless she is a human being. As such she is subject to the laws of Nature or Destiny" she continued. The boy had no reply to meet this argument. So he absorbed xx himself in the reading of "SUKTARA"

Gradually the twilight was retreating at the approach of the evening drakness, and darkness enveloped the earth. The train touched at "Ranaghat". The Vendors' cry broke the absorbing attention of the boy and stirred the pinch of hunger in him. He said " I am hungry. Let's have some tea. Would you mind a cup of tea?" Smilingly the lady replied " I have enough food and a flusk full of tea with me. Don't buy this wayside food". So saying the lady took out some food from her tiffin basket and poured a cup of tea from the flusk and asked the boy to help himself. The boy devoured everything without a word as if his stomach had gone right down to his heels. The lady enjoyed the boy's

boy's relish and asked him to eat to his full "How funny we are together so long but as yet I don't know your name," said the lady with a smile. The boy gave out his name as "Rajat." The lady's eyes were fixed on the boy. His features gave a stir to her memory, his childish simplicity and restlessness moved her. The mothers heart ached at the manner the boy was eating.

After finishing his supper the boy thanked the lady for her kind hospitality. He went on himself,"We people hardly come by such kind of care and hospitality in our life. We have no home, no shelter, so never such kind of dishes."

"Why are you homeless? Have you quarrelled out of home?" asked inquistively the lady". "You have guessed right," the boy replied." There had been no other way to get out of that rot. It is better to live in the open than to live in a home husbanded by a Step-mother. I am having a fine life now, a life dedicated to the service of my country. We get motherly affection like yours in every house we visit." Unconsciously the lady heaved a deep sigh. A sadness smote her but she tried to conceal that. She atonce changed over to some other topics and enquired of the boy wherefrom they got their food and clothings.

" We are the soldiers of the country. The country takes care of us. Camps are our homes where there is flood famine or Pestilence you are sure to find us there combating with these evils. In return the country gives us food, wearings and expenses for our education." The reply

reply distressed the lady and the pleasant halo on her face became pale with sorrow. Both of them remained quiet for some time. Rajat broke the silence saying "It is a sheer good luck so to say that the other compartment had no place to hold me. Otherwise I would have missed this nice meal. Siliguri is in the grip of an epidemic. So I am bound for that place. Fancy the life I would have there. Uncertain -ty is the sine quanon in our daily existence. Know not what food will come, wherefrom it will come, when it will come, when it comes finally I may find it cold unwholesome yet I love this life as there is no family wrangle to disturb my kind." The lady was devouring every word of the b boy as if spell bound. Continuing the boy went on " I never knew mother's love and affection. Over it, a step mother came between my father and me and robbed me of my father's affection too. You remind me of my mother whom I lost before I could know her. I feel it a new today. Had she been alive she would have taken care of me as you have done to-day." Tears rolled down his cheeks and his voice became choked. Composing himself the boy feigned to be cheerful and addressed the lady "Would you please give me your address? Perchance I visit that region I may drop in some day.

Calmly the lady replied " I live in Siliguri. You won't have much difficulty in finding out my place. It is just close to the Siliguri Hospital. A small garden in front of it distinguishes it from the rest in the locality."

"Are you also of Siliguri? I have learnt that Monobina Debi also lives there. Definitely you must be knowing her."

A wave of delight passed over the gloomy face of the lady but she restrained herself quite adeptly She questioned why the boy was so much inquisitive about Monobina Devi?

"Well, I regard her, I adore her. Won't I have a chance to see her when I have come to her place ?" the boy enquired.

"She is an ordinary woman. It is better you don't see her lest you should lose all your admiration for her. You may not see in her your ideal Monobina."

While thus wrapped up in haranguing the night slipp-ed off and the eastern horizon wore a crimson hue. Birds were chirping and heralding the coming morning. The squally wind had subsided, a cold breeze was blowing carrying the sweet fragrance of the wild flowers. Tranquility reigned for a while on the coupe too. A little after, the train made its last halt and the boy leapt up in joy and announced to the lady that they had reached their destination. He enquired if any body had come to receive her and offered himself to help her home. Though the boy had completely won her heart within that short time and it was distressing to part from the boy yet the lady refused to yield to this weakness and replied, "Please, bother not for me. I can take care of myself. But see me once before leaving this place." The boy agreed with pleasure and melted into the

into the crowd of the outgoing passengers.

Some days passed on.The lady could not forget Rajat. She could not concentrate her mind in any work. Often and on her past recollection moved her very much. She could not check herself when she would remember of a boy. Every day she would be invited to preside over or attend one meeting or other. But she felt as if she had been sapped of all her energy and enthusiasm. She felt tired in her mind and body as if Rajat had stolen all zest of her life.

A few days after, in one fine morning the air was resonant with the sweet music of birds, cold pleasant breeze was blowing over the busy town. The lady slowly got up from her bed and opened her doors. The maid servant came into her room to serve her morning tea. The lady finished her morning bath and stood before her dressing table. Her pale eyes betrayed her tiredness. Her face told that she had no peace of mind. Her servant came in and announced that a boy had come to meet her. Her family consisted of only maid servant, servant and cook. She had no body else. She was alone in this world. She asked her servant to lead the boy into her sitting room. After finishing her tea, she entered into her sitting room but she did not find any body there. Thinking for a while, she proceeded towards her library and found that Rajat was absorbed in books of her book cases, Unexpecteadly seeing Rajat, her joy knew no bounds. For a while she stood

stood behind Rajat but he was no absorbed into the books that he could feel nothing about. So she interrupted "Halo,Rajat, Have you found time to see me after so long a time ? "Oh, are you ? Excuse my intrusion. How is it ? Were you not telling me that day that why should everybody like Monobina Debi's writings ? Now I find your library is full of with most of her books. Where will you find a writer of such a high standard now-a-days? You would not find any trash in her writings nor she makes any parade of her learning. Or she would never purloin from others nor her literature is a zugglary of mere words. Truly we seldom find anything in the modern literature. These modern writers do never try to understand the truth of reality and could never express the truth in their writings. They always repeat the same idea in different ways. So if we read one of their works we know diffinitely what would be in their next book. So there is so much degeneration amongst the modern writers. Only exception we find in Monobina Debi's writings. We find new style, new thought, new expression in her every writing. As she can realise the truth so we find pleasure by reading her books. She did never try to deceive her readers by her outer elegance. She always gives us what is true, What is right and what is beautiful.

"Rajat's tone become vivacious with the pride for his favourite writer. Again the lady's mind was throbbing listening at his appreciation for Monobina Debi. She checked herself and asked him with a smile "Would you kill your time today singing in appreciation of Monobina Debi only or have some tea ?

Looking at his watch Rajat said "No, today I can't delay My off time is almost over. Let me go today. I'll drop again to-morrow." Being excited the lady asked/why so hurry?" How can you go without even having a cup of tea ? Tea is ready, you won't have to wait long for it. Go on, let me make a cup of tea for you."

"Let me go. It seems my luck is in my favour today. So you are asking me to have a cup of tea over and over again. It might be that there would be no food for me the whole of the day. So the little I get I should not miss." Thus saying he followed the lady. The lady put a plate full of food and a cup of tea before Rajat and told him "Rajat you are very much eager to see Monobina Debi, Isn't ? Come in the evening I shall introduce you to her." Rajat's joy knew no bounds. He replied " You are so intimate with her, why did not you tell me so long?" The lady replied with a smile. "But you also have not disclosed your identity. " "Well, I shall relate my life history in the evening. But I may be late to come in the evening. Because there will be a charity show of a book written by Monobina Debi. I shall go for it. I have bought a ticket for the show. "The lady's face became bright with joy. She added - "Well, you better come after the function. But do come positively I shall keep ready your food. You also dine with me." After finishing his tea Rajat said "You need not request me so much I shall come positively. Because I wish to be introduced to Monobina Debi."

There was no place in the auditorium. The hall was packed to the full. Because a famous writer's book would be staged. The authoress entered the hall just before the drama started. Having seen her the public hailed her with joy. Some people appeared to be very much busy to receive this lady in simple dress. The lady replied back with a sweet smile and sat on the seat reserved for her. Rajat became dumb-founded seated in a corner of that hall. Every thing appeared to him puzzling. All around him the audiance began to say that Monobina Debi had come the show would begin just now. Rajat would not understand how that familiar simple lady could be the famous writer Monobina Debi. That could not be. Every body was mistaken. After the end of the drama Monobina Debi was garlanded and presented wi with an address of welcome. She also replied in a short and neat way appreciating the function and thanking the organisers. Even then Rajat could not believe all those. What did he see? Sometimes he thought as he might be dreaming. But how could that be he was not sleeping. Slowly everybody in joy and cheer left the hall. Rajat seated screwed to his seat. He could not move. He was awakened by somebody's soft touch. He startled and found it was nobody but Monobina Debi herself standing by his side with a smiling face. She said in her familiar voice "Rajat, the drama is over. Let's go home." Without any reply Rajat followed her as if in spell. Coming near her car the lady bade farewell to those gathered round her car and got into the car. They put her garland and address inside the car.

The car started. Rajat could not make out what to do. He looked perplexed. Having understood his mind the lady said " I am Monobina Debi. Do you know why I did not disclose myself. Then you would not mix with me so familiarly. You would then think a lot about me. Isn't ? Let us go and have our food together. Then we shall have a long talk." "Rajat shooked his head only but could not utter a word. It seemed that he had lost his voice.

After changing her dress when Monobina Debi came to the table than darkness had enveloped the earth. Calmness also joined hands with darkness. Peaceful tranquality prevailed every where. Rajat with great hesitation said "Excuse me please. I could not recognise you so long."

Monobina Debi made tea herself and with a smile replied, "Does every body know every body. Well, I also don't know anything about you."

Rajat said - "There is a gulf of difference between you and me. I heard that my mother was a highly educated and spirited lady. After her marriage both of my parents were happy. After my birth my mother fell ill and we went to my maternal uncle's house. Father was a professor. By that time he was transferred to some other place.

With a curiosity Monobina Debi questioned - Then?

"After their marriage- that was the first time

time that my mother was separated from my father. By this time father became very much intimated with one of the girls of his neighbour. She could sing well. Father did not like to stay alone in his home. So every evening after returning from college, father would go to their house. When my father fell in love with that girl the news reached my mother through some neighbour. Disobeying everybody, she with her ill health came back atonce. She came to save her family which was about to go to rack and ruin by the passion of her husband and a young lady. She tried her best but could not put off the lust of passion of my father. Moreover, I heard that at that time she had to suffer a lot at the hands off my father. She had been tortured bymy father inspite of her ill health. At last my mother could not be an idle spectator when the news of marriage of my father with the girl was broken by my father to my mother. That day she lost all her patience. She was determined to tear off all connections with my father in protest of his ill behaviour. But at that time, Hindu law was not so liberal- so she could not take divorce from him- but returned to her brothers' house. Then I was only a six months old baby. Father wanted to give her more shock. So he took the shelter of law, and did not allow me to go with her. This gave her a double blow. She went away in anger and anguish. Being separated from her darling and dear son she fell ill seriously. On the other hand, I had to suffer a lot at the hands of my step mother. When I grew old and could not tolerate these - I left home for ever. "Rajat was so serious in narrating his life history that he did not

not notice what was going on around him. When he finished his narrative he found tears rolling down the cheeks of Monobina Debi. Being astonished, he asked "Why are tears on your eyes?" Checking herself Monobina Debi said "That is nothing. Why did you not enquire for your mother ?

" I was afraid of my parents. Nobody could utter the name of my mother in that house. But when I grew old I tried to find her out. But I came to know that the place where my mother used to stay with her brothers had been washed away by the river Padma. My maternal uncle left that village and afterwards died. But uptill now nobody could give any news of my mother. "What are the names of your parents?" "My mother's name was Bina and father's name is Sri Manaj Basu."

Monobina Debi could not bear any longer. She fainted. Rajat with the help of the servants and maid-servant of Monobina Debi nursed her to her senses. Regaining her consciousness Monobina Debi saw Rajat anxiously looking at her face. He asked "How do you feel now," With choked voice and joyful eyes she replied "Well my child Rajat don't go anywhere leaving your unfortunate mother." Hearing this Rajat's face brightened up with joy. He embraced his mother like a child and cried out, "Mummy, I will never leave you."

It was a full-moon night. The bright moon was in her throne and its transparent beams poured profusely into the room as if to bless the happly reunion. The fume of

of the burning incence at the neighbouring shrine added to the serenity of the situation.

The END.

3, Lower Range,
Calcutta-17.
14.6.60.

My dear Jean,

Since I wrote to you last, you are so often showing so much kindness to us that I can't help writing to you inspite of your advice not to do so for my ~~h~~ eye trouble. My eyes are yet very bad baffling all medicines. I have received both the books so kindly presented to us by post.

Sipra says she has received $100 remittance from you for my and my nephew's medical expences. How kind of you, my dear child, to think for us all from such distant land! I won't ever be able to repay the same. I pray to God to bless you with health and ~~bod~~ prosperity. Please don't worry for us. By the grace of God we are managing things pretty well here. My eldest son, retired from his Govt. post of a Principal, is reading your mother's book. Mr. Dutt says that the views of your father in the opening page of his Memoirs that death is a stage in the evolution are akin to Hindu and Buddhistic ideas as to the transmigration of soul. Dr. Kellogg is yet living somewhere unknown to his relatives. Sometime souls are found to keep touch with living persons and appear in rebirth with memories of their previous births here. Mr Dutt says this is a fact. We anxiously await the news of the brilliant result of Reva in her final examination this month.

How is your good mother keeping now?

Wishing you both health and happiness.

Yours affectionately,
Subala Dutt.

BY AIR MAIL
हवाई पत्र
AEROGRAMME
NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED
POSTAGE
20 NP
POSTAGE
5 N.P.
50 NP INDIA POSTAGE
Miss Jean Kellogg,
Route 1, Box 101,
Carmel, California,
U.S.A.
Corr - 66
First fold here
Third fold here
Second fold here
Sender's name and address :—
Subala Ball,
3, Lansen Road,
Calcutta-17.

51/1, Karaya Road,
Calcutta-19
15.6.60.

My dear Miss Kellogg,

It is long that we have heard from you, though I have written you several letters to you. My cousin has written two letters to you. Hope you have received them all.

Receiving the shocking news of your dear mother my cousin and myself wrote to you. But we did not give this news to my parents.

We have received both of your books. I have gone through them. I wish I could read this book before she left this world. Really, she was a gifted writer. Her style of writing is good. The book is quite interesting. I have seen this book previously somewhere here. That means your dear mother's book came to India. The very sight of the book reminded me and I have told this to my mother and my cousin.

After reading the biography of your father, we have come to know how great he was. It is seldom found so many good qualities in a man. You are lucky to have such prominent parents.

From the cover page of your mother's book, I have come to know that she was not only a writer but also a renowned social-worker.

Last two weeks my cousin was very ill. Now he is better and improving.

How are you now? Please write to us when you get time. But we are very anxious to know about you very frequently.

With love and best wishes —

Yours affectionately

Sipra.

BY AIR MAIL

हवाई पत्र

AEROGRAMME

NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED

Miss Jean Kellogg
Route 1, Box 101,
Carmel, California,
U.S.A.

Corr - 66

First fold here

Third fold here

Second fold here

Sender's name and address :—

S. Dutt
514, Karaya Rd.
Cal-19

To open cut here

24.6.60.
51/1, Karaya Road,
Cal – 19.

My dear Miss Kellogg,

Thanks for your letter. My cousin has also received one. As he is very ill, so he cannot write now. From last ten days, he is bed-ridden. By the grace of God, he is a little bit better to-day. When he will be fit, he will write to you.

Glad to know that your dear aunt is living with you. I'm looking forward to read the news of your dear mother which you have so kindly posted for me.

Now you will be very busy to settle matters and you require a little rest too. After that, I think you will devote yourself to your art. There are something in this world which can help to forget the world. Art, music – these are amongst others. Those who are artist, they are lucky in this respect.

I'm waiting for your real letter which you would write to me.

You will be glad to know that another book of mine entitled "Adhyapika's Diary" (i.e, a Professor's Diary) has come out and it has good reception from the public.

My parents are so and so. How are you?

With best wishes and love,

Yours affectionately,
Sipra.

BY AIR MAIL

हवाई पत्र

AEROGRAMME

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Miss Jean Kellog,
Route 1, Box 101,
Carmel, California,
U.S.A.

Corr - 66

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Sender's name and address :—

S. Dutt,
54, Kanaya Rd,
Cal-19

To open cut here

51/1, Karaya Road,
Cal—19.
17.8.60.

My dear Mrs Dickie,

Thanks for your letter. Hope you are enjoying your trip.

Only a few lines to let you know that we have sent some wedding gifts for both of you. Of course, these have gone by boat. Mother has sent you a book. And we (Reva, Mr. Bose & and myself) have sent you two Indian stool, two Ivory paper cutters (one curved with Nataraj for you and one with snake-charmer for Mr Dickie), one wallet for Mr Dickie, one sandle wood calendar and one Ivory Buddha. As you like Indian art, and art-crafts, hope both of you will like them.

No more for the present.

With best wishes and love for you both.

Yours afftly,

Sipra.

BY AIR MAIL

हवाई पत्र

AEROGRAMME

NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED

Mrs Jean Lickie,
Route 1, Box 101,
Carmel, California,
U.S.A

Corr - 66

First fold here

Third fold here

Sender's name and address :—

Sibra Dutt,
51/1, Karaya Rd.,
Cal-19

To open cut here

51/1, Karaya Road,
Cal—19.
15.12.60.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Received you letter and Holiday card on 11th Dec. Thanks much for the card. The scenery is lovely. You must be busy for your coming festival.

Glad to know that you have sent a copy of the book containing your mother's memory. It is nice of you to send it for me. I am egarly looking forward to receive the same.

Another novel of mine has been published in may last. Now two more books are ready for the press.

We do appreciate what you have done for my sister. In my last letter, I requested you not to spend anything after her. She will any how manage herself. You should not spend anymore as you need money to make your own home. We want your good & sincere wishes for her and nothing else. We know how good & kind a friend you are. We do hope friendship between your family and ours will ever last. So we do not

want that she would be a burden on you. Help her in other way so that she can fulfil her long cherished desire and not to be disappointed. Glad to Know that you are trying to get her admitted into some University at California. Hope you won't misunderstand me.

Time is running very fast. Our life is short but art is long. So we have to be very active struggling with life. We may not reach up to the goal of our ambition, but we should try to fulfil it overcoming all difficulties, cares and anxities of life.

Two small Christmas gift parcels for both of you have been sent by sea.

Hope both of you are well & energetic in this lovely season.

With best wishes

Yours

Sipra.

11.3.64.
Calcutta.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Thanks for your letter with nice scented pad. Sorry to know that Mr Dickie was sick. Hope by the grace of God, he is all right now.

Sorry to know that Reva informed you that I lost that nice scented pad which you were too good to send to me. Of course, I was Sorry to miss it. But she should not have informed you about this when you are so very busy with your own family affairs.

Time is passing very quickly. It seems 1964 is not a good year for the world. All over the world, there is some trouble always going on. Hope you have read in the newspaper about the recent trouble in Calcutta. and the great communial trouble at Pakistan. In this civilized world, Pakistan should not indulgeinin this sort of killing. Innocent people are in the mercy of Ayub Khan, the Dictator of Pakistan.

We are very much anxious for our elder brother who is still in chittagong. As our chittagong properties are not yet disposed of, so he is staying in Chittagong. to do the same. But after this havoc, we don't want that he should stay there any longer. But Pakistan Government is not allowing Hindus to come down. As he is neither getting Passport nor Migration certificate, so he cannot come down here. Parents are very much worried for him.

How are you? How is Mr Dickie? Summer has already started here. Hope now you are enjoying pleasant weather. there.

No more for the present.

With love,

Yours Sincerely,

Sipra,

BY AIR MAIL

हवाई पत्र

AEROGRAMME

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Mrs Jean Lickie,
Route 1, Box 101,
Carmel, California,
U.S.A

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Second fold here

Sender's name and address :—

S. Dutt,
511 Karaya Rd,
Cal-19

To open cut here

51/1, Karaya Road,
Cal-19.
13.6.61.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

After a long time, I'm writing to you. Thanks for the letter which I received few months back. Glad to know that you have liked that sandal wood stand and the incence sticks.

We always remember you. Life is not easy. As the world is progressing more in science, life is becoming more complicated. As communism is spreading, servants' problem and many other problems have become acute in India. Moreover, my health is not well. Mother was ill. So also I could not write to you earlier. Hope to be excused for this.

How is Mr Dickie? How are you?

Monsoon has started here already. I think, you have no experience about the monsoon of Bengal. Non-stop pouring continues for quite a number of days. I like the rainy season of chittagong than that of Calcutta. Because at that time, natural beauty of chittagong attracts me. Chittagong is surrounded by lovely hills but her feet are washed by Bay of Bengal. She has lost most of her beauty by continuous recent several natural calamities.

Have you received my sister's letter? Now she is busy with her thesis. In her exam, She has done well. Hope by the grace of God, her thesis will also be accepted.

No more for the present.

With best wishes —

Yours Sincerely.

Sipra.

—

BY AIR MAIL

हवाई पत्र

AEROGRAMME

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Mrs Jean Rickie,
Route 1, Box 101,
Carmel, California,
U.S.A.

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Sender's name and address :—

S. Dutt,
5/1/1, Kanaya Rd.,
Cal-19

To open cut here

17.1.67.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Thanks very much for your card. Sorry for the delay in acknowledging. Hope to be excused for it.

Glad to know that you have liked that Christmas Card. The painting is on a "peepul leaf" and it is a tea-leaf plucker.

It seems the world is facing a critical time this year. We read in the Newspaper that in U.S.A also taxes are being imposed to meet the expenses of Vietnam War. Pakistan also faces food crisis and internal political unrest. China has already started internal fighting and last and worst of all the fate of India.

India has got thousands of problems and thousands of qualified people are unemployed here. So many educated girls and boys are leaving India & settling in Foreign countries for their bread. Many Scientists & Doctors also are leaving their country for good. It is really ill luck for India.

Can you imagine any body holding Double M.A. (i.e. master Degree in Arts in two subjects) and Teachers' Training Degree remain unemployed more than a year in your country? But here hundreds like this are unemployed. I myself an example. Holding Double M.A. and Teachers' Training Degree am not getting any job though I am tired of applying for the same. So I am passing my time in writings. But in India, Only by writings very few live on decently. God blessed me by inheriting father's property. So I'm carrying on with the rent of that house. I am intending to see where it ends. I believe in fate. So if my fate favours me, then I really like to give a flying visit to your country. But I don't know when that day will come, if at all comes.

You cannot imagine what sort of trouble we are facing here. Everywhere Chaos and disorder. More than months Tram workers are on strike. Taxi is not much available. Number of Buses are limited. So Public have to face immeasurable difficulty of transport. Rice is not available neither in ration shop nor in open market. But it can be got from black market at high price i.e. Rs 3/4/5 per Kg. Quantity of wheat in the ration is not sufficient. Price of all articles of daily use are on rise day to day. Common people are in a condition of starvation. But rich people are becoming richer day by day. Though Congress motto is "Socialism" but congress is ruling as autocrats. People are very much displeased and dissatisfied.

with congress. But there is no other reliable strong party to oppose Congress, though there are hundred different parties. Actually, we Indian are living on God's mercy only.

It is too cold now. How are you and Mr Dickie? My cousin Mr Bose is not well.

No more for the present.

with best wishes,

Yours Sincerely,

Sipra Dutt.

51/1 Karaya Road.

Calcutta – 19.

FIRST FOLD

BY AIR MAIL

PAR AVION

हवाई पत्र

AEROGRAMME

Mrs James Dickie,

Story Road, Carmel Valley,

California, 93924,

U.S.A.

SECOND FOLD

NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED

SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS:-

S. Dutt,

51/1 Karaya Road,

Cal – 19

51/1 Karaya Road,

Calcutta-19. 23.12.67.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Another year has slipped off the Calender. Time passes so quickly that we hardly think of it.

1967 is the most unfortunate year for all, over the whole world, Specially for India. Hope, you have read in the news paper of the worst condition of Bengal. In the name of democracy, Congress Central Govt. want to establish autocracy in the non-congress states. You know after 20 years of Independence, in the last election this year Congress has lost his majority in 10 different States out of 16 States. So non-congress Govt was established by people in 10 different States. Now central congress Govt have overthrown the elected ministers and put some defectors. Supported by Congress Party. But public do not want to tolerate this. Police behaving nastily on non-violent demonstration assaulting students, professors, ladies, children. There will be no peace until this Govt has been removed which the central Govt does not want to do, Nor the Congress Party wants to face another fresh election which the public want. Anyway, life & property is insecure here & until there is a fresh election, there will not be any peace or order

Govt is not abiding by any law or constitution. The Central Govt's policy is to cow down public voice by bullet which is absurd in Bengal.

I was very sick & was almost collapsing for a wrong diognosis of disease & by taking doctor's spurious drugs. Any way, by the Grace of God, doctor was changed & the best doctor was called & I was saved. I was attacked with Typhoid; but the doctor was treating me as a bi-cdi & bronchitis patient.

My brother who lives in London is suffering from Cancer. Since 1965, he is suffering from this wretched disease. He improved a little & was intending to visit India next month. But the poor soul, has to be admitted again in the hospital due to the effect of x-ray treatment & the doctors have advised him not to come down here next month. Don't Know when he will recover from this wretched disease.

I'm writing books. Recently one of my books has become very much popular. This book has been based on political background (a novel).

How is your painting going on? Are you intending to visit India, specially, Mr Sickie? How are you both?

Wish you both a merry Christmas & a happy New Year.

Yours Sincerely,
Sipra Dutt.

Sipra Dutt, M. A., M. Ed.

Phone : 44-2144
51/1, KARAYA ROAD,
CALCUTTA-19

Dated....23.....12.....1975.

My Dear Mrs Dickie,

Wishing you both a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.

It is a long time that we are out of touch. I don't know exactly where you are & how you are. Since I have lost my parents, I have no connection with my sister Reva Dutt. She has changed a lot. So the link to know about you ~~is~~ lost. But God is with me & I feel His mercy every moment.

The world has running very fast. Peace is missing in the world. Chaos & disorder reigning supreme in every part of the globe.

There are a number of deaths in our family. I don't know whether you know that we have lost our second brother during Bangladesh war in 1970. He had been murdered & our houses at Chittagong are occupied by Muslims. I have lost my eldest brother (whose wife is an English lady) & another brother who was just younger to me and who was a pilot & was living in London. Few months ago I lost my eldest sister.

I don't know whether you have ever visited India within the last few years. If you ever come to Calcutta, please inform me. So that I can meet you.

There is a lot of change in India. Freedom of speech, freedom of press have been prohibited. Price of things are

Soaring up & up. Corruption rampant everywhere, even in judiciary.

Since my mother's death, I have taken writing as my career. Many of my books have come out & some still in the press. My cousin's profession also is going very good.

Please write to me with all about you. How are you both? I don't know your present address, but I think you will get this letter and will reply the same with all news in details. How is your painting hobby going on? How is your husband's business?

Though it is a long time, I have no correspondence with you, but often and on I remember you.

With love

Yours Sincerely,

Sipra Dutt

51/1 Karaya Road
Calcutta – 700019
13. 12. 77

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Thank you much for your letter though late yet better than never. Every letter of a friend or aquaintance brings much pleasure.

Am glad to know that you are on a biography of your beloved parents. Sure it will be an interesting reading as it is expected to cover various aspects of their noble lives. I am eagerly looking forward for the same.

I wrote an article on my mother in a Bengali Magazine soon after her death.

I hope, your present engagement is not at the cost of your painting and graphic work. As you are an artist, through your painting, we expect you will show a path of peace to the world.

Since I wrote to you many political upheavals have occurred in India as well as in the othe Worlds. Indians had been in shackles for a number of years which stopped development of rationalism and humanitarism in the Indians.

Worst of it Mrs Gandhi wanted to perpetuate her rule by establishing a dynasty for Nehru family. Indians shudder to think of the mother and the son. The aftermath of her fall is very hard. Prices of everything are beyond the reach of the common people, rate of interest of Bank has gone down. Moreover, how many political murder, she had committed, God only Knows. Under the screen of emergency, she did all sorts of things. It is better not to write much about her. It is only wasting time and energy. She did not spare even the Maharani of Jodhpur and

Sindia. Newspapers of your country as well as the Voice of America have flashed news more than our newspapers about her misdeeds.

It seems this age is not for honest people. All over the whole world, there is some kind of unrest. Everybody is running after power. As Indira Gandhi had done, So Mr Bhutto of Pakistan. Mr Bhutto is to be blamed for Bangladesh War in 1970. None of them are nationalist, both are opportunist.

The other day, an item of news has come out in 'the Statesman'. Mr Bruce Sibley has published a book where he has written that Survivors of World War III might face a new Ice Age, triggered off by thousands of H-bombs. According to him, the war could start one dawn and be all over by early afternoon. Then all would be quite—the silence of devastation. The British physicist and writer Mr Bruce Sibley has predicted in his book "Surviving Doomsday" a horrible picture of the World. He has forecast in which country, how many million people will be killed and what sorts of bomb will be used.

I fear, his prediction may come true one day. As in your Bible, so in our religious books, a vivid description has been given of the last day of the World. Now we have come to the verge of that stage. If the greediness, selfishness, jealously, power-seeking policy is not wiped out from this World, then nobody can resist the third world war, which would be the end of this creation.

Here is a brief idea about my Voluminous book for your information. Probably you know about our two Epics—The Ramayana and the Mahabharata. They are based on a vast canvas of imagination nicely expressed in anappropriate language and poetry.

They are the correct mirrors of the society of their times and the very old civilisation of India. They are like Homer's "Illiad". Several thousand years stand between them. Now-a-days people are generally averse to this kind of books as sex and obscene literatures are best-sellers. I am trying to place before the readers these two epics in a way that will create interest in the ordinary reader as well as the erudite. I am giving a sample of my treatment of my subject.

I have dealt with the heroines of the two epics together and so the heros. I have given a full picture of their lives, their Virtues and Vices, comparing each character with their counterpart, criticising, no matter he is a God or demi god or So. I have used copious aphorisms, parallel incidents and characters of the Western epics, vindicated or condemned their actions as they deserve.

You will be glad to know that I have a good response from the readers. These volumes so far published have gone to your states also.

I have in my mind to bring out an English version of my book. But I know not if I would get a publisher in your country as late Indian leader Raja Gopal Acharia got, though my book is quite different and more rich with facts. In my book reader will read the two epics together.

Glad to know about Mr Dickie's work on Dinosaur Bone.

Thanks much for your invitation to go to your place. I know not whether I will be able to pay a flying visit to U.S.A. or not. All depends on God's will. I believe in God. Nothing can happen without His wishes.

My cousin Mr Bose conveys his best wishes to both of you.

With best wishes and regards to you both for the Season & the coming New year.

Yours Sincerely

Sipra

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta - 700019.
20.12.79.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Wishing you both happy New Year greetings and best wishes.

How are you both? Have you published your parent's biography? 'Am eagerly looking forward to read the pleasant book.

The world is moving very fast. Peace is conspecuously wanting in every part of the world. The leaders of all countries appear to be mad for power, for their sins & carruption, people are getting punishment from Nemesis. Only for leaders' high personal ambition, wicked like Mrs Gandhi is coming back to power, that means, dictatorship will again rain supreme in the country causing sufferings of the poor of India. The present situation of India is highly deplorable. Govts in every state are shaky. Legislators are changing allegiance every moment. No doubt it is bumper time for

the industralists & business men. Prices of every thing is soaring up & up. But there is no one to check. Because all political parties are fed by the business unscruples. Every day the number of decoity is increasing. Scarcity is the most common phenomenon. No Kerosine, coal, gas, water. Often and on there is power cut. So we are walking back to the medieval age. Either flood or drought has taken almost states in its grip.

This is in short our country.

What is the condition of your place? Whom you think to be the best president in the coming election in your country. I think the third world war is at the corner, That means end of the creation.

There is no sign of winter here. Course of Nature has changed.

Due to acute load-shedding publication of my books is being hampered. Almost every day we don't get any power for 14 to 16 hours. So you can imagine how press can go on.

Please give all news about you and your place. How is Mr Dickie?

No more for the present,

Yours Sincerely,

Sifra

MONTEREY, CA
DEC
28
1979

51/1 Karaya Road.
Calcutta-700019
16.4.80.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Thanks for your letter with Mr Dickie's cartoon. Please convey my thanks to him.

So long I was waiting to receive a part of your book which I suppose mailed by you under ordinary cover. Sorry to inform you that no such article reached me as yet. If you posted the part of your manuscript, it might be missing. May be some one intercepted on the way, sheerly for stamps. So if you ever send your manuscript or book, please send it by regtd. book-post, so that there will not be any chance of missing the article. Of course, if I can so request you!

Have you seen the current century's wonder — I mean the Solar eclipse? Of course, we had not clear vision in Calcutta, as the day was cloudy. Even then we observed the beauty of Solar eclipse through our Movie. Even now we are seeing the photos of various shades of the beauty of eclipse from different parts of India, namely Hyderbad, Madras, Puri & so on. Of course, your experience must have been better as you have got coloured T.V.

The astrologers are of different opinions on the effect of the eclipse. Some say that it forebodes the end of Kaliyuga or end of the world & so on.

In utter disgust the electorates have voted back Mrs Gandhi. This time, her son Sanjay has also become an M.P. So both the

Mother & the son have started with autocracy. Those officers who were in charge of investigation of the corruption charges against the mother & the son, in the previous government are not only being harrassed but also face some false cases or demotion etc. The security of the entire family of such officers is in danger. This sort of dictatorship will not be tolerated in a democratic country like India. People thought & she herself also expressed in different Public meetings that she was repentant for her previous actions. So people cast vote in favour of her. So that she can form a stable government. But in vain. God knows what will be in our future.

You have written that as U.S.A. are supplying arms to Pakistan or giving military aids to Pakistan, India should not worry for it. As India has past experience, so she is worrying over it. Whenever Pakistan gets any arms, it had been used against India. Not only Indians, some generals of Pakistans fear that to get hold of power Mr Zia, the President of Pakistan, would use these arms against India, though he should know that he would lose. Even then for the time being, he would not have to face the general election. The same way gone by all previous Presidents. If a dictator could get power in Pakistan, he is always averse to any general election. Every body acted as a dictator. Mrs Gandhi's crime were far more grave than that of late Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. But India would never think of hanging her.

Glad to know about your contributing an article

in a magazine. Hope that it has been appreciated very much by the readers. On what subject the article has been written?

Now I'm writing two epics the Ramayana & the Mahabharata with criticism in English. Of course, I have to write it in concise form. Some publishers asked for it. Don't know when I'll be able to finish it. Because already I'm busy with my that voluminous Bengali book on the Ramayana & the Mahabharata. 7 more Volumes are yet to come out. Another novel is on my desk. Over & above, I'm writing this book in English. Uptil now my 20 books have been published. Most of them are novels, two are collections of my short stories, one on Chittagong Folk Songs & the big book of the Ramayana & the Mahabharata. This will be my first attempt to write a book in English.

Hope you are absorbed in your country's election. No body can say what is in the ~~fact~~ fate of Afganisthan, Iran etc. But it seems that there is less possibility of any ~~World~~ World War.

India has great Scientists, Philosophers, Economists etc. If they could get chance, they could enrich India. But unfortunately those who are talented most of them are neglected & in frustration many of them have committed Suicide.

Hope both of you are well.

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta — 700019
18.6.80

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Thanks for your letter of 27th March. So long I was waiting for receiving the ten chapters of your book. But I'm extremely sorry to inform you that uptil now I have not received the article. Now I have given up all hopes to get it. Of course, it is disgraceful on our part. Not only your book, like this, our many postal mails go astray very often. Just now I received a letter from one of my friends who had written three letters to me, but none was received by me. Our complaint against the peon to the authority goes in vain.

By this time, you have come to know that Mrs Gandhi has come back with full powers in politics. With her, her son Sanjay Gandhi has come back. With him many criminals have got seats in Parliament. Not only that, those criminals namely the persons who hijacked the plane at the instance of Mrs Gandhi. Party, have been rewarded with a minister-ship. Some notorious deceits are lieutenants of Mr Gandhi. She secures all these seats, not out of love for her or confidence in her, but she spent money

like anything. Our illiterate people can't judge which is good or bad. They are easily purchasable. So Mrs Gandhi did. She has come back in power, but she can't rule as before. No body obeys her. Hence so many troubles inside India. Most hilly countries like Assam, Tipperah, Darjeeling etc. are silent volcano waiting for eruption any moment. We don't think she will be able to control all these. Political & social situation are very bad in India.

Due to power cut, most of the factories are in lock out or closed. Prices of things are going up day by day. Number of thefts & dacoities is increasing.

There is no strong opposition party to face Mrs Gandhi's party. So she is doing whatever she likes to do. She has prepared the ground for her son to be the next Prime Minister i.e. it would be a horrible time. If there would be any civil war, we would not be suprised.

Not only India, there is some form of trouble all over the world. The three big powers want to expand their hold. The result will be that there will be always unrest in the world. It seems

no power wants peace in the world.

Astrological science is a very difficult one. And I don't think any body can calculate correctly any thing. Any way, if any body wishes any good for the World, it should come as quickly as possible.

Now it is supposed to be rainy season, but no sign of cloud on the horizon. It seems Nature also changing in this country. In the scorching summer no light no fan for hours together.

I have just finished my incomplete novel & a collection of short stories for children. But I don't know when these two books will go to the press. Because the country is likely to face a severe paper shortage this year. Because the mills have been hamstrung by the dearth of coal, power & other infrastructural facilities through out the year.

My fifth volume of the Ramayana & the Mahabharata has been published. The sixth & the Seventh volumes are ready to go to the press. But the Publisher is waiting for paper which is not available.

Now let me have news about you. How

are you & Mr Dickie? What is the condition of America? Who would be the next President of the U. S. A. — what is your opinion about it?

Hope by this time, you have completed your parents' biography. I'm longing to go through that book.

My cousin Mr Bose joins in warm greetings to yourself and Mr Dickie.

Yours Sincerely
Sipra Dutt.

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta-700019
22.9.80.

My dear Mrs Dickie,

Hope you have received my previous letter. Thanks much for your nice manuscript which I have gone through. Really it is a nice biography of general interest. People of U.S.A. will discover many things which most of them may not know. Moreover this book will help the future historian of U.S.A. to write the real history of the country.

I read one of the books of your father during my M. Ed. course (Master in Education). At that time, I did not know that he was your father. Really you are lucky to get such great and renowned parents.

I'm looking forward to read the rest of the book. Really, it is not only a very good book, but also very useful at this stage of the country.

I should have written this letter long before. But the position of our country is so bad that we don't know what to do & what not. Can you imagine, we are

living here more than 12 hours a day without any electricity. In these scorching months. Some day there is 16 to 18 hours load shedding in some area of Calcutta, i.e, there is no fan, no light, no water. Almost everyday after midnight only for two or three hours, we get fan or light with very low voltage. Kerosene has become scarce, it could be a substitute for electricity. That ~~d~~ dauged article is also being adulterated i.e, mixed with disel. So it is very bad for eye-sight to read & write anything in that light.

The political situation of India, is very bad. Since Sanjay Gandhi's death, the situation has become worst. Because he was the leader of gangsters. Three-fourth Seats in the parliament are now occupied by these uneducated, chacterless, gangstns. Many of them are decoits, smugglers & what not. Now Mrs Gandhi can't control them. Sanjay wanted to be Prime Minister Snatching it from his mother. So he was backed by his followers in the parliament. Now they want she should quit & make way for them. Sanjay's wife & her mother want that Maneka Gandhi (Sanjay's wife)

Should replace Mrs Gandhi which is not only ludicorous but unimaginable. Manéka is backed by these gangsters & the Punjabi community. Because she is a Punjabi girl.

There is no law & order for them in the country. Business men are taking advantage of the situation. Every day the prices of things are going up. No state or the centre can control them. If they fix the prices of commodities, then those things at once go out of market. Neighbouring countries like Pakistan, Bangladesh are taking advantage of this and sending their people to create communial riot.

Not only in India, all most every where there is no peace. Not only in Arab countries, there are many more things are going on in China also. So there is a great change in ruling power in China. Almost everywhere there is some change i.e, in Poland, in Zurich etc.

Please excuse me for the delay in expressing my views. Now you are busy for your next election. How are you both! No more for the present.

With best wishes from me and my cousin to

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta-700019.
17.12.80.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Thanks for your letter of the 25th October.

So your favourite candidate has won the election. Hope you will get better administration from the new Govt. Now this is the rule of the world, Democracy is a sham cry of deceitful politicians to cover the plutocracy. India is an instance of the type. Recently a book has come out from U.S.A. adoring Indira Gandhi as a demi-God. Can a mother just after a fatal crash of young lively son go hunting for the bunch of keys without a drop of tear in her eyes? This is a characteristic of a demi God!

Even in the winter season, we are now having some kind of load-shedding. The main reason of the deplorable condition of this country is that there is no leader in the truest sense of the term. The so-called leaders of India to-day have no place in their hearts for the country or the people. They think of themselves & their political groups. Because without a party, they have no leg to stand upon. So who

is thriving in this country! These self-seekers & some members of the party are all in all. This is the same with Mrs Gandhi. There is none for the country. So no problem is being solved, neither they have the necessary capacity to solve any problem.

The world politics is very bad. Peace is nowhere. Everywhere men are hankering for powers.

'Am eagerly waiting for the next instalment of yours MS.

How are you enjoying the season?

I have sent a small packet of gifts for you both which contains (1) One sky blue Benarasi Stole. (2) One leather Wallet (3) two small elephants — One of ebony wood set with mother of pearls & another German Silver standing on a wood, (4) One Season Card. Hope the packet will reach you safely soon. Because I have sent it by Air.

I'm as usual busy with my literary works. I have completed two more novels & two books containing collections of short stories for children. These books have gone to press. And the 6th Volume of my great work is expected to come in the market soon.

Calcutta.
21.5.81.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Thanks for your letter which reached me on 11.5.81.

We are very sorry to know about two serious falls of Mr Dickie. Hope by the grace of God, he has fully recovered by now. We pray to God for his long life of peace & happiness.

Don't worry about the pin. I will be able to redo it by my craftman. Really it is a lovely thing & its craftmanship is also wonderful.

We are shocked to go through the portion of your letter touching my sister. We are quite in the dark. You have written "She chose this life". What sort of life she is living there? Of course, we smelt that she had fallen into a dangerous company. We tried to make her shun the company, but in vain. We can't imagine what sort of crime she can commit there. Our good advice has made us her enemy.

May I have a glimpse of what has happened with her? We have no other relation or friend of whom we can beg of this information, which is highly consuming.

A few years back, in reply to your letter I wrote to you that since 1967 Feb, we (My cousin & myself) have no connection with her. Even we don't know her present whereabouts.

I enquired about her, because (Since 1967) generally she came to India almost every alternate or two years after. Three years back when she came, we came to know through one of our old family friends that she had come to Calcutta for some abcess Operation. That gentleman told us that the doctors of U.S.A Suspected that her abcess might turn to cancer. But in Calcutta,

foreign qualified doctors denied it. Any way, after the operation, she went back. But within these last 3 years she did not come to Calcutta. That's why we suspected that whether she has fallen ill or what? But unexpectedly getting this Sad news, we are not only shocked, but also passing sleepless night. Don't know what to do? I felt ashmed to write to you. Because you did lots & spent lots of money for her. You are the person who took her there with great hopes. We too sent her there with great hopes for the family & for the country. But in 1967, we felt, she has disappointed us all. We know nothing about her earning there. Because she did not give or send any money to any of our relations. Nor do we know where she is working after 1967. To-day I don't know whether she is working at all. If she is without a job, how long she is so & why?

Your latest letter is ominous. Many evil shadows are crowding in our minds. Since I received yours, we lost our sleeps as the shock is so great. I can't forget her for a moment. Thought about her is obsessing me all time. If she has done anything criminal we shall have nothing to cover our shame.

I wrote to you, soon after my parents' death (Both of them died within three months in 1965) that she came to Calcutta to settle father's estate. She told us that she would not like to have anything in India. She would sell her share. Because she would not live here, she would change her nationality. My cousin & I were shocked & surprised to hear all these. We insisted her not to do so & requested her to come back & settle in India. Then we had to come to know from her about her so-called friend who is an illiterate tribal Muslim driver of Baluchistan. On this point, we had hot altercation. We requested her to give up all connection with this man & if she desired she could marry any foreign

qualified gentlemen who solicited to marry her there. All were highly qualified, well settled foreigners. But she refused to listen to us. We then told her unless she would give up all connection with that man, we would not keep any connection with her. In anger she gave up all connection with us & left our house in 1967, Feb. Since then, she never came to our house, nor rang us, nor any correspondance with us uptil to-day.

In 1967, we had a hitch, then we came to know from her that her almost all money was in deposit in that man's account. We understand she was in the clutches of that man as if hypnotised. In 1967, she took all her remaining jewelleries from me, the value of which in the present market is more than Rs 50,000. We knew these would go to his hands. We heard that whenever she come to Calcutta, she had no jewellary on her body.

Each time, she used to stay with a different relation or a friend. If anybody enquired why not staying with me & my cousin, in reply she used to say that we deprived her of paternal property. They would say, how can they? They can't do anything illegal. Moreover, you are earning lots there. Why you are egar to take Indian money to U.S.A? Other Indian boys & girls earn in U.S.A & send money to India. But why are you not? Moreover, your cousin has rolling practice in the Calcutta High Court, your sister also earning a lot from her royality, her share from your father's estate is fetching good income, why should they be after your share? So why there should be a hitch between you two? In reply, she would say, why my father has given me property, I will take the money where I stay & will stay. Why I will send my earnings anyone. None of them need it. I will keep those for my friends who will look after me there. This is what we heard from relations. But we would

keep mum. We can't disclose the real story. It is a disgrace to her as well for us & our whole family.

We knew once she would have to come back here without anything, then she could enjoy her share of the estate. For that reason my cousin did not allow her to take Indian money in an illegal way. Further more, any money in her hands will go to that man. We asked her to take the permission of the Reserve Bank & take her share. We personally did correspondance with the Reserve Bank in this connection. But they did not allow us to give her money as she is a foreigner. She herself knew that in a legal way, she can't take huge amount of Indian money. So she is annoyed with us why we are not paying her in an illegal way. But if we would do so, we would be prosecuted under the Foreign currency Act.

Really it is like a fall from a precipiece. Our family is a noble family. My father who was an eminent advocate & a social worker, did not grudge to give us the best education We were educated in the best school of our time the best missionary college. He got his three sons educated in Faraday House, London University & Glasgow Aviation club respectively. Pettiness was scrupulously avoided, high thinking was the motto of the family. My grandfather was also an eminent lawyer of his time. My maternal grandfather was a Bar-at-law & also a renowned social worker for which he was then honoured by the British Govt. He was the founder of the deaf & dumb school & the orphanage of Dacca etc.

You may resent to have sponsored her, ^Now I tell you her past life. She had an excellent career & was a brilliant girl with all round qualities. In her student life, she would draw sauce drawing paintings. Some of them are still hanging on our walls. She

used to do nice neddle work (some of those still lying with me). She used to sing & play Sitar. After her school leaving exam, she went to Burma for a flying visit to one of our relation's house. There she sang some songs in a cultural function which came out in the newspaper with much appreciation. In Chittagong also she used to sing in several cultural functions. Not only this, in her student life, in Scottish Church College, she secured silver medal in inter collegiate sports. In her school life, she was a girl guide (connected with auxilliary corps).

She passed the Labour Welfare Officers' course with first class credit. So with the Social welfare course.

At the time she was leaving for the states, we all instructed her that she should behave there as an ambassador for India. By her manners, character, achievement she must prove herself to be a worthy daughter of India.

Indeed in her first decade of stay in the States, she won many notable acquaintances & patrons, charmed many by her manners & habits. Her academic career also there was remarkable. She used to deliver lectures about India in different social gatherings. All these news had come out in the newspaper. She would send all those newspapers to us. I pasted all those news cutting. Some U.S.A. journalists wrote about her achievements in Calcutta dailies. Then she used to write several articles about the U.S.A. in English in Calcutta Newspapers & journals. Moreover, then her letters to us were full of interesting news about the U.S.A. Then she used to write to us 3/4 letters in a week. I used to arrange those news in an article & would send them to Bengali monthly journal in her name. Those articles were very much popular amongst

the readers. When she stopped writing, even then the editor used to write to me why I was not sending the interesting article as before.

All her virtues suddenly took a bad turn when she fell into the clutches of the rogue. She totally forgot us & her family. We gave her warnings, persuaded her to come down to Calcutta to run her own clinic, as she aspired once. But all our suggestions fell flat. So she is what she is to-day. Association & environment has changed her completely.

Last time, hearing about her illness, my cousin went to see her in the nursing home. Then I was sick. But she behaved nastily with him in the presence of so many outsiders, relations & nurses. Even then after her operation, again he went to see her & enquired when the stich would be opened & told her he would go again to see her on that day. But without informing him or ringing us, she left the nursing home that very day without keeping any message or address for him. That means, she did not want to see us. My cousin went because father made him our gurdian in his will in his absence. Not only that, he thought as the head of the family now, he should try to rectify her again & insist her not to go back & bring her to our house. But she did not like our good advice.

I know you are very busy, still I can't check myself without requesting you to let me know extactly what she has done? where she is now? Can we be of any help to her? She has blackened the name of a very noted family. Considering my anxiety, I hope you will excuse me for this long letter. I should not write all these to annoy you. She was a loving sister. This sort of degradation hurts me very much. So I can't control myself.

One more request to you, please do send your reply in a regtd cover, so that the letter may not go astray. We don't like that others should know this family affair.

God only knows where & how she is living? We are afraid if she is prosecuted, after her release either she will become a mad lady or she will be murdered by that gang. She is lost.

We have nothing to do for her, but only to pray to God for her peaceful & healthy normal life.

Please excuse me for this long letter. Really 'am ashamed to write to you what she has done.

Hope by this time, Mr Dickie is improving & you are well.

My cousin & I send our best wishes & regards to you both.

Yours Sincerely,

Sipra

P. S;—

It is strange, how a person can mould his or her character by her company or environment.

May 29, 1981

Copy

Dear Sipra:

I have your letter before me--dated 21.5.81. The letter obviously caused you effort and distress, therefore I hasten to reply to the best of my ability--albeit I cannot answer all your questions.

First of all, let me say quickly that I cannot imagine Reva contemplating or taking part in any activity that could be called "criminal". My remarks were not intended to convey an ominous impression, and by the phrase "she chose this life" I meant life in this country as opposed to life in India. Since your own frame of mind must be extremely sensitive since the unfortunate difficulties with your sisiter, it is understandable that you were quick to draw conclusions or raise doubts.

Now, let us take up your letter in detail. You state that since February of 1967 you and your cousin have had no real or meaningful contact with Reva. That is a long time and dates from the time when you both raised objections to the company she was keeping. During all those years I am pretty sure she was working very hard, and at times with real success. I was in touch with her--more often at first as she slowly made her way from the western United States to the more sophisticated East--where she has remained. She achieved honors and had some pleasant trips with her colleagues to various meetings in the social sciences. We sent her a few simple items such as a radio in the early days of her residence in New Jersey. She sent us little thoughtful gifts at Christmas also after bringing initial gifts to my mother and myself when she arrived here. I have never felt any ingratitude on her part, and on my part have felt sorry not to have kept in closer touch with her lately for reasons explained further on in this letter. She did not tell me of her trips to India, nor did I know of her illness. Sometimes she would ask for some favor (not money) and then thought better of it and withdrew the request, showing her sensitivity.

One thing we do agree upon is the wish that Reva would have returned to India to put her considerable skills at the disposal of her country. Apparently she never wanted to do this; my husband hinted to me that Reva had made some remark to the travel agent that accompanied me to welcome her to the San Francisco that conveyed her intention to remain in the U.S. as long as possible. On another occasion, I asked my husband, who was taking a trip to New York, to invite Reva to lunch at his hotel . He did this, and I

THINK ~~SHE CAME FROM~~
think she came from New Jersey to meet him there. He told me later that he had the impression that she was overly impressed and caught up by the life of the city--which if you had ever seen it you would understand. However ,we felt that it might have been better for her if she had remained in the west. Although, of course, Los Angeles is also a dangerous and sophisticated city. As for myself, I comforted myself with the thought that it didnt matter too much where she was helping the 'unfortunates' as long as she was looking after them.

Throughout all this period there was perhaps one disturbing sign which appeared more and more insistently in her letters--something I might call a persecution complex--with all due regard for the difficulties of life for any foreigner. (By the way, at your request, I Tthink, we wrote her warning her against the liason with the man you refer to as a Baluchistani, urging her to maintain her independence until the right man came along-- which you must remember, could still happen.) In any case, from what you say Reva rejected the advice. Now as to her complaints about her situation, one must remember she was working in the New Jersey Mental Asylum, and that is a terrible strain. Sometimes I have heard that such workers get ideas that may not be entirely true such as the one that everyone is against one.However her complaints became more acute, and I found myself not feeling able to enter too deeply into this situation, partly because of my older years and diminishing strength and the demands of seeing that my husband remained well and cared-for. At first I would tell your sister how I felt, then I began not to reply. She came west some months ago and called me to come here, but we were away in the southern part of the State. I think she wanted to have a good talk, but I was having to rest away from home. I think Reva has been upset with me and added that to her many frustrations.(I have never for a minute regretted having helped her to come here.)

To continue with this subject, you detail in your letter the break you had in 1967. Reva, also, told me of this but not until four years later. I had forgotten all about it until your recent letter makes it clear that it is still a matter of deep concern to yourself. Sense of family is very strong in India, stronger, I believe in the United States where people are always trying many different life styles. Your sense of pride in family is deeply rooted, quite naturally, since yours has such a very distinguished history. But perhaps , in Reva's case, pride is not as important as the value of her personal struggle as an

individual--which may account for her being so quick to take offense and to be put upon. In her anxiety for freedom of action she is suspicious of anything that seems to stand in her way. For this she has paid by being a very hard and conscientious worker. She has developed a sense of loneliness which leads to sentimental interest in others whom she has no intention of marrying, and with whom she simply wishes to share those lonely feelings. She has always been pessimistic about the future of India and the opportunities there, a feeling you yourself express in some of your letters. In Reva's case this feeling is exaggerated by the reports of fellow professional Indians (doctors, chemists etc.) who have gone back to India to marry, worked there awhile and then come back to the United States. This is an unfortunate situation. I think Reva has set her face against India, for how long I do not know.

Now, you are a writer and as such must have a certain detachment toward your characters, so it should not be hard for you to set aside family pride and tradition and to see your sister as a modern young woman who has had a lot of difficulties which have exaggerated her defensiveness. But she has had good times along the way as you can see from the enclosed picture and note, one of the last communications that was a happy one--although some health problem was mentioned. Please keep this picture for yourself. I have no idea of her present whereabouts, but barring illness would guess she is busy and useful as usual playing her role in the world by helping others even though she may not be really happy. You can be proud of her achievements. If I ever hear from her again, I shall certainly reply. I think reconciliation and understanding should be the order of the day for both of us. Some years ago was her address was

251 Atlantic Street Apt.61
Keyport New Jersey 07735 U.S.A.
and it is possible she may still be in the State of New Jersey. However any letter may not be delivered if she is somewhere else. There are ways of finding missing persons. However, your sister may prefer to keep her solitude, and so as you say, God only knows.

One other remark you made has much truth in it and that is that association and environment play key roles in a person's life, influences hard to assess. Reva's early accomplishments and the relief she has managed to convey to suffering persons should be her contribution to the world.

Naturally this matter is never discussed except between my husband and myself. So let us proceed with more peace of mind and no loss of sleep.

Yours Sincerely,

Jean K. Dickie

428 Monroe
Monterey, Ca 93940

51/1 Karaya Rd. Cal-700019
23.12.82.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Thanks for your letter. Glad to know that you were out on an excursion. Hope, you enjoyed it much. How nice it is to visit different places which gives pleasure in mind and body.

Thanks for your suggestion about my nephew. But it is too late. Now he is 27 yrs. When it was detected that he would be abnormal, then my sister Roma requested Reva to take him to U.S.A for treatment. But she refused to do anything for him. Moreover, he was not born abnormal, but was made so by his doctor by application of strong medicine in his childhood. Not only my nephew, many other children who were under his treatment all become abnormal. Luckily, the doctor is dead and many children have been spared. This is one way that doctors do keep patients under them for years together.

I wish, we too should have all amenities

of other foreign countries, so that we too would pull on without servant. But we have no facilities, rather environment has been made unbearable by nuisances of various types.

West Bengal suffered severe drought which effected the usual climate. Because of draught through out the rainy season, there is scarcity of water, So heavy load-shedding. Load shedding has little effected the electric bill.

There is little chill and cold.

How are you both?

Hope you are busy with the coming festival season.

Please both of you accept our seasonal greetings.

Sincerely

Sipra.

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta - 700019.
11.11.83.

Yours Sincerely
Bipin

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Thanks for your letter of 25th Sept. Wish you both our heartiest greetings of the Season. Calcutta has been agog with Puja festivals leaving aside all woes of sufferings throughout the year. Fortunately the days of festivals were exempted from load shedding.

Really, there is no dearth of power in the State. Shedding results from factional quarrel among the employees in the Electricity Board. One party wants to discredit the other party in power & wilfully causes breakdown of some machine or other. The result is suffering of the general public. It is a planned political Vendetta. There were more than 2000 community pujas in the city & its Suburbs over & in addition to pujas in the private houses of the affluent, some of which are thousand years' old & have comedown from posterity to posterity. All these puja places were profusely illuminated, nay not only illuminated, each puja pandal vied with its neighbour in excelling in peagentry of fire designs. All corporation buildings were alit. At the immersion the Shores of the river Hoogly are lit up at such a measure that it makes one to mistake that the soothing lustre of the fullmoon of autumn

has flooded the place. It is really a sight to see. Year before last the Duke of Kent came to Calcutta to see the immersion ceremony of the idols into the Ganges. He enjoyed it very much.

This is a malaise consuming the order & discipline in each & every department of the Government, local or central. People are hopelessly helpless. Nobody to control. Honesty is taboo. Future of an honest officer or a man is doomed either by constant harassment or ultimately by murder. Educational institutions are not deprived of the corruption. Those who are honest & sincere they have to leave the institution in frustration.

In 1971 alone ten millions of Bengalees had migrated to India from Bangladesh for Shelter. Now the turn for the Tamils. Already about a lakh have arrived in India without the intention of returning to the carnage. Imagine the burden upon India, which is already surrounded with many problems of her own.

Tamil history is this. About 600 B.C. a Bengalee Hindu Ruler conquered Ceylon with a contigent of 700 only. The present Sinhalese claim to be the decendants of the conquering Ruler. They have close affinity with the Bengalees & they think India as their motherland. The Tamils, who belonged to Madras

lying in the Southern region of India, went to Ceylon about 200 B.C. Before Ceylon was given a Status by the British after severing it from India, all the inhabitants in Ceylon thought of their common origin & lived in amity. After independence this present two nations notion has been born.

Whither is the world moving? I fear a big conflagration is at the corner of the world. The warring nations, but for the hesitation that a global war would destroy the world, are slow in action though loud in profession. U. S.A's latest move is not justifiable. U. S.A. & Russa are racing for Supremacy at the cost of the poorer nations. All have forgotten the lessons of history of Greece, Rome & other civilisations. How they miserably declined. Take the case of British Empire. There was a saying that the Sun never set in the British. Empire So vast it was. What is the present condition of the British Lion? 'Love thy neighbour' is the best policy for building an enduring Supremacy & not brutal force.

My health & domestic engagements have arrested the pragress of my literary works. So the progress is rather slow. Some of my books have gone to Press.

Have you finished your parent's biography? 'Am eagerly longing to read that book.

51/1 Karaya Road.
Calcutta-700019
1.4.84.

Dear Mrs Sickie,

Wishing you both a Happy & Prosperous New year. Thanks for your nice card & the lovely lace. Really, it is a nice needle work. Now-a-days people depend on machine. So we are losing artistic handicrafts.

I agree with you that the great powers are the root cause of world's unrest. Directly or indirectly they create all problems for different countries of the world.

In the world history, we find, all leaders of old time were sincere, selfless, faithful to their respective countries. So they wanted to do some good things not only for their countries, but for mankind in general. The world has changed. In our time, we find, people have become very much selfish, self-centred, opportunist & power loving. So the leaders of to-day don't think of the good of the people or the world. They move on personal ambition & next for party, a necessary ladder, country is very remote. Such leaders do not allow the people of the world to live in peace & harmony.

Mrs Gandhi is now busy to push her eldest son Rajib Gandhi (who was an aeronautic) to the fore, So that he may succeed her ~~in her absence~~ position

which she inherited from her father. But it won't be an easy sail for her. Her youngest son Sanjoy glued himself with the ambition of premiership in place of his mother. He had little bit of political technology. But Rajib is goody goody man. There are so many problems in India as well in her party which are baffling. Mrs Gandhi now has switched to World politics. Boggy of Nuclear War & danger from Pakistan fill her present addresses in Public gathering. To my mind there can be no Nuclear War, because neither the States nor the Russia can survive such a war. Cold war as usual will go on to the great sufferings of the world at large. Of course, Pakistan may fire one or two shots to oblige U.S.A but without any benefit.

Of course, as a writer the readers as well as all publishers know me. My name with a short biography has been published in some literary books & journals with other writers. But uptil now I have not got any literary award which I don't think will ever came to me. I hate greasing the members of the Board. For award is given not on literary merit, but by nepotism or by subornation, such as, one lady received a literary award recently for her first book which all honest critics have condemned. No reader or literary critics could read the book to finish. Afterwards, it had been disclosed

that there were three judges. One of them was against this book, another judge was her brother-in-law (So naturelly he was in favour of her) & the third judge was bribed to get his consent. When public challenged him on what ground he recommended the book to be the best book for award, he had no satisfactory answer. Similarly, almost all awards come in this way. I hate this sort of things. So I don't expect any award. My award is my readers & also my publishers.

I read in the news that your country is having such cold that in the last hundred years of your country there is no such record. Specially your part of the country, that is, California is having the worst cold of the year. I hope, cold has not marred your joyous life & comfortable living & both of you enjoyed the Christmas and the New year merrily & happily.

Here too are having very cold this year. Many poor people died in cold as in America.

Hope you will like the Card.

My cousin joins me in wishing you both best greetings of the season.

Yours Sincerely.

Sipra.

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta - 700019.
24.2.84.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Thanks for your letter of 31st Jan. It is heartening that you are bringing out a book for the children. No doubt it will be a charming book bearing pictures drawn by you both, who are good artists. When will it come in the market?

After a long time, my another short story book for children is going to be out this week end. Other three books are with the publishers. God only knows when they will reach any readers. Because as winter has gone, our load-shedding already has started to make people's life miserable.

Most probably you know one Indian cricketer Sunil by name has passed the world record by scoring 31 centuries in Test Matches. In Nehru Gold Cup football match, from many foreign countries, such as Europe, Argentina, China, Korea etc. players came in Calcutta to participate in the game. Few days Calcutta Stadium were over-crowded. Those who were unlucky to get tickets for the game, came to their aid T.V. & Radios, Transistors. Calcutta people are sporting fans. So all foreign players felt encouraged to play before such an enthusiastic crowd.

Spring has come. So different types of exhibition

pandals are attracting the people of Calcutta. But we are very much worried about the crime rampant in almost all parts of the city. And the anti-Socials are committing all sorts of crimes under the banner of different political parties and with the connivance of the police. Only the other day, one 10-year old boy had been murdered for ransom. Police is in league with these anti-Social elements. They are booty-seekers. So criminals are not apprehended but the innocent are harassed. To speak frankly there is no law & order. God only is our saviour.

The other day it has come out in the newspaper that by 2000, three fourths land of the world will be engulfed by the fast approaching desert. Land will not produce food. It is a forecast of an eminent Scientist. Can you imagine what would happen at that time! The Research Scholars of the National Institute of Mexico City, have already declared that for want of food, people should change their food habit & should practice to take leaves of the trees & different types of insects. So we will go back to the Dark age.

Bye the by, all on a sudden, after a long lapse, I have received 3 letters from Reva. [redacted]

[redacted], [redacted]. In the first two letters She asked me to sell our Calcutta house to an American (Bengali) Sr. Though She knew quite well that after ejecting our tenant we are projecting to shift there, even then She has written to that Sr giving incorrect particulars of our house or its present market value which is miserably undervalued. Of course, there is no question of value, when we are not going to sell it. That Sr wrote to me asking for all details. I wrote back that we would not sell our property.

Without consulting me, or without knowing anything why She has done like this God only knows. If we want to sell, we can get 100 customers for it in India. But why from America!

Any way, in reply I wrote to both of them that we were not selling our house. We ourselves would live there. In reply to my letter, Reva, being annoyed, has written a very nasty letter to me on 12th Feb. Even now I don't know what was her motive to sell my father's property, when his children are yet alive. Moreover father's Chittagong property (including 3 big buildings with land) had been occupied by Pak Govt without giving any compensation to us. This is father's last reminiscence, how can I sell in my life time? As I have refused to sell it, so Reva has written a long abusive letter to me.

I don't know whether she is normal or not. So far, I have come to know from my brother & sister that she has got no connection with her that boy friend who kept her detached from our family so long. I have also come to know that she purchased one storied house & let that out. And she used to live in the Keyport flat. After cutting up all connections with that boy friend she sold that house & purchased another two-storied house. She used to live in the first floor & ground floor had been let out to a widower. Don't know what happened with him, she had to file an ejectment suit against him. She was planning to sell this house also. She had lots of troubles with this present house. All these informations reached us through my youngest brother. Now she had no connection with any of my brothers or sisters or any other relation. For her present conduct everybody has shun her company.

In reply to her first two letters, I requested her to come down to India & to open a clinic, the demand of which is very keen in the city. Not only that everybody is asking us why she is not coming & settling her life in her motherland. I mentioned that you too wish that she should come & serve the country with her vast knowledge what she has gathered from the U.S.A.

In reply to my that sympathetic letter she abused me in filthy language. The problem that vexing her is where to put up? No body will stand her this fast life. Now I find, within last 25 yrs, she lost her all virtues & adopted the vices of that country. Moreover, I heard from my sister, she has been trying to come to India for the last 6 yrs, but could not. God only knows what has happened with her. She now never speaks the truth. Year before last, she wrote to my brother that she would retire in 1982. We don't know what she is doing there. Because no body has any touch with her for her filthy writings. to everybody. So far, I heard she has lost her all jewellaries & wasted most of the money after that boy friend.

If she would come down & live decently, she could live with us. But she won't. She won't give up her vices. So my wholesome advice is bitter to her. Any way, I won't write back to this nasty letter.

In my letter, I wrote to her that her share money of the property is ready with me. Whenever she will come down here, after necessary formalities, she will be able to have that money. But I can't allow her to smuggle the money out of India as 'am

Income tax assessee.

I don't know whether she has any correspondence with you.

Sorry for taking your valuable time with such a long letter touching our family. As I am think you as my own elder sister, so I am writing to lighten my heart. Hope you won't mind it.

Hope you are enjoying spring.

With best of luck & good health to you both

Yours Sincerely.

Sipra.

51/1 Karaya Road.
Calcutta – 700019.
14.12.84.

Dear Mr & Mrs Dickie,

Thanks for your letter of 12th Ultimo. Hope, by this time you too have received my letter where I have given some news about the assasination of Mrs Gandhi.

It is nice & good of you both to remember us when India was in a crisis. The news of the time flashed by the foreign countries was exaggerated. Actually except Delhi, there was not much trouble in any other city of India. In Delhi, also at first, some people, in an outbrust of anger, murderd some Sikhs. But those also very few. Most cases the anti-social people took the advantage of the situation, did some mischief such as looting, setting fire to some shops, vehicles belonging to Sikhs etc. In Calcutta, no Sikh died in that disturbance. Only few people died by police firing on public when they tried to set fire or to loot shops.

It is not the question of religion answerable for the situation. We should give you the real picture of Khalistan. When the British Govt was about to leave India, they wanted to divide it into three pieces – India, Pakistan for Muslim & Khalistan for Sikhs. To make India weak, the British Govt had the intention to divide her into several parts. The Sikh is a martial race. Originally they are Hindu. If they were given a separate state, then India

would be very weak. So it would be possible for the British Govt to come back & rule over her again. But at that time, the question of Khalistan was dropped. They themselves preferred to remain in India as the Indian Nationals.

During 37 years of Indian Independence, some Sikhs, who are residing in foreign countries have built a good future. They have enough for themselves. Now these rich Sikhs have fallen into the clutches of persons who envy the peace, prosperity, unity or progress of India. At the sametime, the present Pakistan President is in constant trouble in his own country. To divert his people and satisfy them, he has directed his tirade against the peace and unity of India at any cost. Moreover, India & Pakistan got freedom on the same day same year. India has progressed a lot, though the internal administration is not healthy. But in Pakistan, there are constant troubles. At first, it was divided into two, after a great genocide ~~which~~ has ~~arisen~~ arisen Bangladesh. Even now in these two countries, there is no peace. Disturbances are ever present against the Military rule and its oppression. To change the view of his countrymen, Mr Zia too encouraged the Khalistan movement. In one way, if the Sikhs leave India, he thinks it would be easy for him to attack India & conquer her. Of course, it is his dream which will never come true under any circumstances.

It is not the whole community of Sikhs that

demand Khalistan. Only a limited few who have been purchased by American dollars for echoing the cry of Khalistan. Otherwise, how could Indira Gandhi occupy the Golden Temple, a Sikhs' religious temple which was converted into a fort and an arsenal & a treasury of foreign dollars? Because those soliders who faught with the sikhs of Golden Temple were themselves silks. Even now from all over the countries, the Sikhs are denouncing the idea of separate Khalistan. They know India as their motherland & want to stay in India as Indian citizens.

So religion is not the real cause ~~that~~ of the recent trouble. But some mischief mongers are doing this agitation only for money's sake. Their leader was a notorious anti-social. It is our present President Mr Gail Singh (who is also a Sikh) who brought him into power when he was the Chief minister of the Punjab. After that he became a frankenstein whom nobody could control until he was murdered by his own followers.

We will say, it is the misrule of Congress to divide a state into several states on language basis only, such as Punjab → Punjab, Chandighar, Haryana, Assam-Assam, Arunachal, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Mixoram etc. By this, the unity of the state has been ruined.

It has been confessed by the murderer of Mrs. Gandhi that there was a conspiracy to murder her before she started the Military operation into the Golden Temple of

of Sikhs. And not for religion, but for dollars, they have done this crime. Dollars have been found in their possession during search of their quarters.

Mrs Gandhi was lucky enough to come into contact with the leaders of Labour party in London in her School life, such as Herold Lusky, Arnest Bevin, Fenner Brokway, Reginald Sorensen. From her school career, she was baptised to politics in the Western country. She became a greater politican than her father by getting training from her childhood.

Though her marriage was a love marriage, soon after her marriage, India got Independence, then she had to live with her father who was then the Prime Minister of India (as he was a widower) Indira's husband Feroz Gandhi did not like the idea to stay in in-law's house. He was also a member of the Parliament. So he used to stay in his quarters alone. Indira had to look after the guests of her father. So she used to live with her father. This was the cause of their unhappy end. They lived together only 5 years.

Any way, our election will be on 24th & 27th Dec. Let us see what happens. Hope, the Congress will come into power. Because the people of India always want a stable Govt. During the long 37 yrs of Independence only for 3 yrs Janata Govt came into power. But they could not continue for different opinions of different parties among the Janata Party. So people were disgusted

and called back Congress Govt. At that regime, Janata Govt tried their best to blackmail Indira Gandhi which was proved baseless. I too wrote those to you not knowing that they were not correct.

Sorry for taking your precious time.

How are you both?

Wishing you both happy & prosperous New year.

May God bless you both with peace and happiness..

Yours Sincerely,

A. C. Bose

&

Sipra

5/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta - 700019
4. 2. 85.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Thanks for your hearty New Year greeting card. The card is nice but the theme is very much touchy and has impressed us very much. Thank you once again for selecting such a nice card of the day.

Yes the tempest of election in India is just over. Now we have to wait to see how far Rajiv keeps his election pledges. But his performance immediately after assuming the office of P.M. has filled people's mind with various misgivings. He has included in his cabinet some most notorious whom his mother discarded. The first step has shocked the people at large. It is not correct that Rajiv and his wife are popular in the country. Rajiv was only one of the 515 members of the Parliament. Ere before he did nothing to endear himself to the people. The only adventure he made during his mother's life time was to overthow the majority ministry of Mr N. T. R. Rama Rao of Andhra Pradesh. He swallowed a bitter pill for his precocity. He shone so long with the luster of his mother, like Sun and Moon. His promise number one was that he would remove corruptions of all ranks. Curiously enough he had selected ministers in his cabinet who bear the stamp of 'corrupt' on their backs. Some of them were

even debarred from the Congress Organisation for several years. Commission of enquiry was set up to probe their acts of omission and commission. Such blacksheep have returned to the forefront of the public.

On the otherhand those who were honest, sincere members in his mother's cabinet, nay they were her best friends and guides have been enblock omitted from his ministry. Not only they have lost ministry but they have also been robbed of their positions in the Congress organisation. Rajiv's present guides and philosophers are some raw politicians. God help them.

Soon after coming into power those corrupt people have sat down retrenching thousands and thousands of young men whose hard labour made congress party to come into power with such a big majority. You can imagine what can be the reaction in these young people. They are honest and sincere. Through them govt's income was increasing that had been told by the then minister to Rajiv. So we are afraid that though Indian made him the P.M. to remove corruption, preserve unity & integrity, but upto now no such healthy sign is on the board. Not only that, he may change the foreign policy of Mrs Gandhi. For all these he become a target of criticism.

Rajiv has transferred or removed all honest sincere officers from responsible posts to negligible posts and has placed all dishonest corrupt people in those posts. Not only that, he has sacked all people in his mother's domestic regime, such as very old faithful cook, Ayah,

home physician, her private secretary etc.

The accident of Bhopal was just like that of Hiroshima and Nagashaki. It is told by the scientists that after Heroshima Nagashaki, there was no such big havoc in the world. Uptil now, nobody can say exactly the number of people who have lost their lives by the poisonous gas. Some reports say 20,000 lives have lost & several lacs are Suffering and a few lacs on the way to lose their eyesight. Some reports say the area has become a desert. Not only human beings but also animals & birds in huge number also died of the poisonous gas. It is due to the negligence of the foreign Company. The state Govt is also to some extent responsible for this havoc. They should have been more cautious & would not have allowed such a company without arranging fully the safety of the local people & the workers of the factory.

The New Year has begun, but still in some Corners of the World there prevail unrest. Pray to God that good wish & thought would come back into human beings to let all live peacefully in their respective lands.

We hear of severe cold in America. Hope you are not suffering much from it. How are you both?

With best wishes & regrad to you both from me and Mr Bose.

Yours Sincerely

Sipra.

51/1 Karaya Rd.
Cal-700019.
29.3.85.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

It is a long time that 'am not hearing from you. I don't know whether you have written to me which might have gone astray as many other letters. I am afraid, there hardly occurs any delay in replying to me. Hope by the grace of God both of you are well physically and mentally.

After a long time, I received a letter from Reva. She wrote to me that she had faced a very bad car accident from which anyway, spared her life, but had many stiches on her face, bone of her right hand was fractured. So more than five months she had to live with only bread and butter as she could not cook. Even now she feels pain on her right hand. Only by God's grace her one eye was saved. Of course, it is a very sad news. I asked her to come down and stay with us as before going to U.S.A. If she likes can do many things in India which will be good & helpful for our country. When there is no body to look after her, what's the use of staying there alone? But uptil now, have not got any reply. She also wrote to me that no other brother or Sister or any relation has any correspondence with her. She was a very loving sister in the family. But unfortunately, she lost every-body's love & affection for her affectation. Even then I wrote to her to come and stay with us peacefully. God only knows what will happen to her in future in U.S.A. without any relation & friend.

The political situation of India is very bad. Rajiv can't do anything except his own family comfort & interest. He has shifted from the house where Mrs Gandhi used to stay (ying at only a stone throw. This new building has cost 40 lacs. But it is his temporary residence. Another new building is being erected for his permanent residence which will cost 3 to 4 cores of rupees. When for want of finance, the Govt has to impose many taxes on poor citizens, then for nothing this huge expense for his temporary & permanent residences. Nobody supports it. Almost all daily newspapers are criticizing this lavish expenditure. But who care's for it.

Hope you have received my long letters giving all news ~~about~~ about Rajiv & his Govt.

How are you both? Hope you are enjoying the Spring.

With best regards to you both.

Yours Sipra

हवाई पत्र
Aerogramme

Mrs Jean Kellogg Dickie,
428, Monroe Street, # 2,
Monterey,
California, 93940, U.S.A.

दूसरा मोड़ SECOND FOLD

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता:-
Sender's Name and Address:-

S. Dutt,
51/1 Karaya Road
Calcutta - 700019., India

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रखिये
No Enclosures Allowed

पहला मोड़

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta – 700019
12.8.85.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Received your letter of 8th April on 24th April, which hurt me much. Most probably my lengthy letter was the cause of your annoyance. After reading in the Newspaper about the big fire in California, I wanted to enquire but lest it would disturb you, so I resisted myself.

Politics has become bread & butter of modern human life all over the world. It reflects in day to day domestic life. So any one can hardly be indifferent to politics, though for myself I hate politics. Because it is a dirty thing. I am not personally connected with any political party. But as a writer, I have to keep in touch with all social & political changes through different newspapers, bi-weekly, monthly magazines & other different kinds of media.

Woodrow Wilson says – "Politics I conceive to be nothing more than the science of the ordered progress of society along the lines of greatest usefulness & convenience to itself."

Thanks for your second letter dated nil which I received on 29th July. Reagan is responsible for to-day's world wide unrest. India's policy and programme is simple & open. She does not meddle with others' problems nor she likes other to intervene in hers. But expansionist ambition of Reagan won't allow India to thrive in peace & prosperity. The next door neighbour Pakistan, is, what it is today, is the creation of

the next publisher who took great interest in publishing my book, all on a sudden expired in sleep. He was publishing my another book for children. It was almost finished when he planned to publish the Voluminous book. After his death, his young son who was several years in the U.S.A & got some degree in Architecture inherited the publication business. But he is a novice in the line. One old employee was placed to look after the publication affairs. Here also all sorts of mismanegment. They held up my book one yr for nothing. Then in diggust, I withdrew my book & gave it to a third publisher. At last, he has published my valuable book after a gap of two yrs. My another novel is almost ready for the market.

What about your book? I'm looking forward to read it.

By the bye, I have got one handkerchief with your letter. But you have not mentioned anything about it. I think, it has come by mistake. Shall I send it back to you?

My health is very bad. Am suffering from my old disease. Don't know if God will permit me to finish my big book.

I have not received any reply of my last letter to Reva about which I wrote to you.

Now it is rainy season. It is the worst season for Calcutta. Almost all roads drains of domestic houses are overflowing with rain water.

the U.S.A. News of constant supply of most sophisticated weapons of war is a source of constant worry to India. The recent movement for Khalistan is the creature of the U.S.A. The U.S.A. has been made the breeding ground of the extremists, who had ruthlessly murdered, Indira Gandhi. The U.S.A. has been spending prodigally for the rise of Khalistan cry. The result was the dreadful crash at Cork taking 329 innocent lives, Likewise peace of all big or small countries is in jeopardy for the U.S.A. The cause is only to sell her military equipments. Russia & other countries want to stop production of Neuclear destructives but U.S.A is the only country which is opposing it.

There is another Delta plane crash. Many valuable lives are lost. Almost everyday we get in Newspapers either some news of plane crash or plane hijacking. Previously it was nice & enjoyable journey. We used to enjoy by flying from country to country But now-a-days it has become so hazardous people can't say whether he or she can reach his or her destination or will have safe return.

You will be glad to know that after a long gap of two years 7th volume of my voluminous book has been published. The publisher who was publishing this title, died at the age of 90 yrs two years back. He was a freedom fighter and a bachelor. After his death his employee has become the owner of publication. There was a lot of mismanegment. Within one year, he could not send my manuscript to the press. So I had to withdraw from him. Then

Send - Jim's books for Xmas -

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta - 700019
8. 10. 85.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Your letter is a great pleasure to me particularly the latest one which is full of fascinating informations about you.

Thank you for the handkerchief, a lovely present. Am feeling proud to know that you are such an eminent artist. I knew that you are an artist. But I did not know before that you are such a great artist. I also did not know that Mr Dickie is also a cartoonist. Now you are set for a new line, an author. It is a nice article and have thrown much light on the poet.

We are very sorry to read about quake havoc at Mexico. It proves once again that how helpless is man who much boasts of conquest of Nature. Now-a-days death seems to be very busy in exacting its toll. We are losing thousands of people in this way every day. Don't know the reason of God's wrath on His creation. Sin factor cannot be denied for such natural calamities.

Sorry to know that the publisher has lost Mr Dickie's manuscript. I had also similar fear of one of my manuscripts. Because one of my novels which has come out recently, has been published after five years detention in the

from her, nor any sign to come to India. Of course, in India also there is no peace. Even then here we all relations are living. She can easily live peacefully with us, no matter what is happening elsewhere. Only God knows how She is!

After a long pouring, Autumn has come at last. Now, last few days, there is no rain. Everybody is busy with our national festival, i.e, Puja.

My many books have already come out, 3 more books are ready to go to press, two are on my desk, I can write very swiftly, so I don't need much time to write a letter. As I myself like to get long letters, so I always write long letters caring little for others time and pleasure. So please excuse me for my bad habit.

We are again suffering from acute load-shedding continuously 5 or 6 hours at a stretch. This massive power cuts disturb city life, domestic life too.

How are you both?

With best wishes for you from myself and from my cousin.

Yours
Sincerely
Sipra

custody, of my publisher. Of course, there were two locks out in the press. Even then I was very much worried over that manuscript. Thank God, at last it has reached my readers' hands.

It is true that we love Reva. But since she has gone to New Yourk, her way of living has quite changed. In our Society, no body tolerates this sort of life. So not only we, in her last letter, she wrote to me that no brother sister or relation had any correspondence with her. Because since she had hitch with us, whenever she used to visit Calcutta every time, she used to put up at some new place. Because once she put up with some relation, next time he or she did not like her company over again. So she had to stay with another relation. I told you, though she had many good qualities, but her enviornment and job has made her abnormal to some extent. Her ways and means are not Suitable to our present Society. But she does not understand Other's mind and adjusts herself accordingly. She thinks that as she lives in U. S. A, so she will live in India in the Same manner. Now she has become very much self-centered, Selfish and obstinate. On the otherhand, she has developed Some false ego about herself. So she is not welcome in any house. 'Am very sorry for her. At this age, she is alone there. Her last letter proved she had no friend nereby to look after her in her distress. So I requested her to come down and put up with us as she was before as a loving sister and relation. But uptill now no response

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta - 700019
23. 12. 85.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Thanks for your nice card, picture of different kinds of birds, have made it more lovely.

Of course, several kinds of birds fill our garden with sweet melody. But in seasons like Autumn and Spring many more different kinds of beautiful birds of enchanting note visit my garden every year.

Have not you received my last letter which I posted just on the eve of our Puja festival (in the month of last October)? Uptil now have not received any reply of the same.

Hope you will enjoy your festival with mirth and fine spirit.

Am sorry to read the news of the disasterous earthquake in Mexico and loss of so many lives and properties. Another news also worries us very much about your country. AIDS — the incurable disease. We read in the newspapers that many people in U.S.A. have already fallen to AIDS. It has created a panic in India too. People are very much cautious about it. Govt. also taking steps, so that this disease may not spread here. Uptil now only two Navy men in Bombay have been detected as its victims. These two poor men were long in U.S.A. & infected in U.S.A. Hope God will save the world from this miserable disease.

You might have read in the Newspaper that the 112 yrs old Calcutta New Market or Hogg Market has been gutted by fire. It was a very fashionable market and famous for marketing fashionable articles for the upper class. Just before the Christmas when it wears its annual gay and gorgeous dress, fire ravaged it reducing thousands into abject poverty. There were 2500 shops in the market. I think you have seen that market. So this time, I am sorry that I can't send any beautiful Card to you.

Last of all, I am ending this letter with a Sad news. I am sorry to inform you that I have lost my Sister Roma about whom I wrote to you when she came and stayed with us year before last being seriously ill. I wrote to you that she had an abnormal son. We are very sorry for her son. We and Roma thought that as Reva is in the line she would come to some help in this regard. But she did nothing. Poor boy did not know anybody except his mother. Roma was an expert in handicraft and sweing & knitting. She secured several prizes and medals and certificates for her such works. Before her marriage, she was a teacher of a famous Girls' School. She tried her best to treat her son here, but she not successful. Any way, she died leaving her husband and only that poor boy. We pray let her soul rest in peace.

With best wishes from my cousin and myself
Wish you both a merry christmas & happy New year.

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta - 700019
7. 3. 86.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Trust, both of you are well hail and hearty with the New Year.
Hope, my last letter with Christmas card reached you safely and though not in time.

Glad to know you have many projects in your hand and for want of time, you have not been able to complete them. 'Am sure God will fulfill your desire in no time.

Like you, 'am also can't do as much I desire to do, though I always remember, life is short, art is long. I can't get much time to write for obious reasons. though I try my best to write more. Don't know whether I will be able to complete my all works which I have already started.

Any way, hope both of your creative art will shed new light to your country.

Most probably you have read of the communal troubles all over India. Calcutta was not excepted. Park Circus area where we are now, before partition was mostly occupied by Muslims. But since they left for Pakistan, Hindus & Christians purchased their properties and had been living peacefully and happily so long. Since last

two years lacs and lacs of Muslims are coming to West Bengal, specially in Calcutta from East Bengal and trying to make their home here dislodging the Hindus. Lack of Central control & State control, they have occuppied many Govt. lands and erecting unauthorised structures everywhere without legal sanction. Both the Govts are looking forward to them for their votes. So they were getting indulgence. Now they have gone so far that they want to re-occupy forcibly those properties which had been sold 38 yrs or 40 yrs ago. So naturally there is a commotion all over the country. Govt may remain silent, but people who have left their all properties in East Bengal or West Pakistan and make their new homes here, can't tolerate all these turbulent. So in some area there were troubles. Of course, our locality was saved due to my cousin's timely interference in iron hands, drew the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis to his side. Otherwise, they wanted to drive all Hindus of the locality depriving them of their lawful holdings.

Due to Rajiv's lack of foresight and his spirit troubles have started all over India, specially in the Punjab, Assam, Kashmir etc. His mother had experience and had some

experienced active advisers to guide her. But Rajiv has removed all those talented, intelligent and experienced old politicians from different important posts not only, but also ignores their advices. Now in his own Party, he is in a very ridiculous position. No one listens to him. Rajiv cows down to any threat by any body. In this way, no body can rule a country. His misrule reflects not only in the political field, but also in every family life. Economic condition is very bad. He does not know what to do, only increases prices of essential commodities to boost up his deficit budget.

World politics is also not well. Either there is some natural calamity or some war which distrubs the world peace. Many things are happening in your country, in my country and in the other parts of the world. Only God can save all. Corruption and adulteration are all over the world. How poor people can live peacefully?

No more for the present to avoid weary. Looking forward for a reply from you with good news.

Regards to you both from myself and from my cousin Mr Bose.

Yours Sincerely
Sipra

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta – 700019,
3.5.86.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Received your letter of 23rd March on 4th April. We are very sorry to hear about Mr Dickie's health. Hope by the grace of God, he has fully recovered and got back his former health and spirit and pray to God for his long happy and peaceful life.

Please excuse me for my delayed reply. I should have written this letter long before. But I was very busy in giving last look to some books. You will be glad to know that another children's short story Book has been made ready for the press and a novel is also ready. Now I am waiting for the publisher. Now I am on the 8th Volume of of my Voluminous book, Ramayana and Mahabharata through Characters.

Yes, it was a great blunder to divide India on religious basis. If that would have solved the problem, then East Pakistan would not have separated from West Pakistan and renamed as Bangladesh. Neither there would be any war in South East Asia or Africa viz Iran, Iraq, Syria, Libya etc. All these are Muslim countries, but yet they are warring with one another. Uptil now 50 lacs muslims have intruded into India with the help of muslim Ministers of the Government of West Bengal and other States. Now the left front Govt realizes the blunder. They thought these people would vote for them and they would be able to sit in the Govt by getting majority for good many years. They are increasing in

number, they themselves will form a separate party and will vote for those. Whereas the intelligent class is fed up with the existing C.P.M. Govt for indulging the Muslim Community so long.

Political and economical condition of India are very bad. The Punjab and Assam problems are where they were far from being solved by Mr Rajiv Gandhi. Now again he had to send Para-Military and police inside Sikhs' religious Golden Temple, what Mrs Gandhi did, to bale out the terrorists who declared Khalisthan on the Indian soil.

In Pakistan Miss Bhutto and in Bangladesh Mrs Hasina daughter of Late Mujibar Rahaman, the assassinated President and founder of Bangladesh are in turmoil in Pakistan and in Bangladesh. Like Mrs Acquino, they want to capture the Govt. Of Course, they have public sympathy for their family disaster and present Govt's dictatorship. Most probably, you remember Mr Bhutto, the ex-president of Pakistan for whose fault Pakistan had been split up into two, had been hanged by his military head Ziaul Haq. And the founder President of Bangladesh had been murdered with his whole family, relations and friends by some military officers. Only Hashina and her younger sister were in London at that time and escaped the spree of murder. World politics is also very critical. We all are looking forward to see what is going to happen inside in the next month.

In one respect, Indians have more freedom of speech and freedom of press to criticize its Govt and even its

Prime Minister or President. The other day, it has come out in a Daily that one of the Senior Muslim Ministers told the press that he had told Mr Rajiv Gandhi that people were discussing that if there be any crisis came, he would fly with his whole family to his father-in-law's house. No more politics. I fear, you are annoyed.

How far your writings are going on? How is Mr Dickie now? How are you?

Summer has started now with horrible load-shedding.

With best of luck and good wishes and regards from my cousin & myself to you both

Yours Sincerely
Sipra.

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta - 700019,
15. 7. 86.

My dear Mrs Dickie,

The sad news borne by your letter dated 23rd June has shocked us much. It pains us more when we think that you are all alone now in your big house. It is indeed gratifying to note that your relations and friends are all around you at this hour of your bereavement. We are far away from but our hearts with you and we share your grief equally.

Your long silence made me anxious about your husband and I was about to drop a letter to you, when your letter of 23rd June reached me on 15th July. Carrying the sad news.

You have really lost a all-round mate. The enclosures in your letter spoke eloquently of his head and heart. The people of California will ever remember him for his precious contribution to children's cartoons. Really, you two were a rare combination, as such you cannot be separated by the cruel hands of death.

I'm now on the 8th part of my big book. My present matter is Bhāgabad Gita - one of the eternal Hindu Scriptures. The Gita explains death as renunciation of worn out clothes for the new ones.

By death man abandons his mortal cage, after fulfilling the purpose wherefor God has sent him to earth, for the blissful life in Heaven. According to our Gita there is really no death in the sense of complete annihilation of existence but it is only the end of our pilgrimage on this earth. If you dearly and earnestly desire your late lamented husband in your heart I am sure, you will be able to feel his presence around you not in human frame but in spirit. Would you believe me, after my mother's departure from this world, I heard her voice calling me. The soul does not die, nor it shuns the near and dear ones at once. For sometime it hovers around and meets them finally in Heaven.

I have no words to console you, for the best reason that you are alone now. I think the best way to forget bereavement is to dedicate yourself to your mission wholly as well as to follow the wishes of the departed. You have planned in a novel way to repay his love and kindness by taking up the publication of his unpublished cartoons and sketches. In this way, his spirit will be better pleased and his memory will be better respected.

Excuse my above homily. I am like your

young sister. To me, this is the best way to be one with you at your saddest moment.

I earnestly pray to God for peace to his Soul and bliss and happiness wherever he is taken by the merciful God.

Myself and my cousin, though apart by long distance are with you every moment. We will ever think of you as far away from us. Herewith our sincerest condolence and prayer to the Gracious God to give you strength to bear the present calamity courageously. Please look after your own health and don't break down.

With love

Your Sincerely

Sipra

Dear Mrs Dickie,

I am extremely sorry.

yours Sincerely

A C Bose

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta - 700019.
16.9.86.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Your letter of 3rd Aug has reached me after a fortnight.

I owe an apology for this belated reply.

It is a pleasure to know that California Museum of Cartoon Arts intends to keep Mr Dickie's contributions to the art of Children's cartoon. Of course, it is an unique honour and respect for the departed Artist. Certainly, his works will inspire the coming generations and his name and fame will last long.

Human life perishes one day, but his or her great works left behind, will ever make him or her immortal. Nothing is more disgraceful than that an old person should have nothing to show to prove that he or she has lived only with his or her long years.

God has sent us in this world, not only to enjoy our life only, but also to do something which will remember us after our death.

I think, I should explain to you the significance of the Gita. According to the Christianity after death, ~~and~~ the dead is to wait for the Day of Judgment. Christianity does not believe in rebirth.

According to the Gita, death is not the end of a life. It has been said, everybody has to come back to this Earth again and again until and unless he or she spiritually improves himself or herself fit to merge in the Eternal

Spirit, after conquering the worldly desires and attachment. The actions and desires of this birth are the cause of the rebirth of the Soul which is otherwise known as 'Spirit'.

There is no end. At no conceivable moment can there be a cessation. For all end of things, is the beginning of a new thing which are still the same. One is an ever-developing and ever-recurring figure. Nothing can be destroyed, for all is "He", who is forever.

It opens swiftly or gradually, petal by petal, through successive realisations, once the mind of man turns to the Eternal, once his heart no longer compressed and confined by attachment to finite appearance becomes enamoured in whatever degree of the Infinite. He, who chooses the Infinite, has been chosen by the Infinite.

'Am giving you a concrete example. Two persons have been born on the same day, at the same hour. One of them is honest, sincere, pious, laborious, educated. Other is dishonest, insincere, indolent, not much educated. The first one, tries his best to establish himself in this world or at least to live hand to mouth. Even then in every respect, he is a failure. Whereas the other one nicely spends his life happily. How the difference can be explained? Do you say, the other one is more clever or knows tacts of life than the other. Not at all. I'll say, this is nothing but the reaction of his acts and deeds of his previous birth. It is said, as you do in this birth, so you will reap in the next birth.

Don't know whether I am clear to you why it has been told in the Gita that death is nothing but changing of clothings. As we leave torn cloth for a new

One. So leaving this life, we enter into our next new birth.

There is a Will or force in the world that determines the result of my actions as part of the great whole. It is this that my mind seizes on, and calls My Will. But I and mine are masks. It is All-Existence that gives me my reality; it is the All-Will and All-Knowledge that, while I calculate, works in me for its own incalculable purpose.

So, mourn not over death, says our Gita, the Oracale of Lord Krishna. The dead may not be near us, but certainly is around us, guarding and guiding us like a 'Guardian Angel'

I do ask for apology again. I should have answered your letter earlier. For two reasons, I could not write earlier. Firstly, change of season, so my health is not well. Secondly, I was busy with my new book which is new in all respects. It is not a novel or story book. But it is a collection of some distressed old parents' agony. After the second World War, Joint-Family system has vanished on the ground of economical and social crisis. Now at their old age, the parents get ill treatment from their dearest children. The place of parents, now-a-day, has been taken by father-in-laws. By the hard earned money, the parents build happy homes. Now-a-days, the parents have no place to live in their own homes. Our Indian parents are too affectionate. So before their death, they gift away all properties to their children to save death duty and Wealth Tax. The result is that, as soon as the children get all these properties, they

change totally and behave nastily with them. This book will touch everybody's mind. It is a burning problem of the day. In my book, I have illustrated the cases of some noble families to show the lamentable end of such living being cut off the original family. Like your country, we don't have much old age homes, where these poor parents can take shelter at the end of their lives.

Please excuse me for my lengthy letter, the theme may bore you.

I trust, you have bravely faced the recent mishap and going on with your own mission peacefully.

Our national Puja festival is coming soon. Please accept our greetings of the season.

With love and best regard from me and from my cousin.

Yours Sincerely

Sipra

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta – 700019,
27.10.86.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Glad to know that you have appreciated my last letter which has been helped you some consolation in your recent bereavement.

We had a very bad rainy season this year. Not only villages after villages and district after district were flooded, but also Calcutta city was under deluge. It was worst than the flood of 1978. Even now some villages and States are still under flood. So many kinds of epidemic have broken out in those places. Many people died of flood and epidemic. Public and Govt help are not properly getting these people. People are suffering, but some interested people are doing party there. There is no sense of humanity.

Thanks for your kind wishes. But I am very unlucky. I am fighting against my fate. Not for many God has blessed me with enough wealth. But circumstances are adverse to my ambition. For example, In India, we cannot go on without servant. Because we are not yet fully scientifically equipped as you are in your country. Our house is a big house with big compound. Two whole time servants, one sweeper and a gardener are my daily necessity. But since the Communist Party is in Power, the Servant problem has become more acute than due to the

growth of industrialism. Daily wages of the farmer class have been increased so much that the servant class is being tempted to peasantry which has created a crisis in getting a servant. Though some may be available, they come more for seeing sights of Calcutta, not for any work for a considerable period, though tempting salary is offered. Now they are averse to work and they never work in any house more than a few months. It is very difficult to procure a good servant. Sometime, I have no servant. So I had to do all household works myself. I have no one to assist me except my cousin who is of Mr Dickie's age.

Just before the Puja, both of my servants have left. So I am in great distress and household works are so absorbing that I have very little time for my literary pursuit. I have no servant now.

Besides the above, constant load shedding, dearth of cooking gas for months and months, scarcity of Kerosine oil — all due to mal-administration of the Govt; have added much to our other difficulties. All the above causes have hindered my literary works. So God alone knows how far your kind wish will be fulfilled.

It is for your information that the original Gita is in Sanskrit language which is mother of many

languages of the World – according to the philologists.

If you like, I may send you an English translation of the book (Gita), as it is a fountain of consolation for grieved hearts.

You have very correctly assessed the cause of the present drift of the World due to decline in morality and worship of God of Wealth.

Hope you are busy in your works. How are you now?

With best wishes and regards from me and my cousin.

Yours Sincerely

Sipra.

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta – 700019
13. 11. 84.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Thanks for your letter. Our national puja festival is just over. Please both of you accept our heartiest Vijaya Greetings. It is autumn. Occasional rains marred the puja enjoyment to some extent.

On 31st Oct when I was about to drop my letter to you the saddest news of the assasination of Mrs Gandhi was broken by the movie making the whole country reeling. By now, you have read that the dastardly act was done by her own security guards who were Sikhs. It is nothing but an after-math of Mrs Gandhi's bold step to repel the Khalisthan movement using the Golden Temple as an armoury for the outrageous rebellion.

Mrs Gandhi did nothing wrong. Her utmost concern was to preserve the country from disintegration which our neighbours of some foreign nations had been encouraging. Otherwise why jubilation among the Sikhs residing in the U.S.A, the U.K, Canada & Islamabad at the news of the assasination of Mrs Gandhi? After all, most sad an affair.

It is a great loss for India & all the sub-continental Countries. She was the Chairman of the Non-alligment movement. So it is a loss for whole Asia. She was one of the greatest leaders of the third World.

Though she had some drawbacks, even then she had great personality, courage, firmness, farsight, intelligence & patriotism. Some foreign leaders expressed that the death

of Mrs Gandhi is a great threat to the stability in the Sub-continent. As she was a lady, some big powers wanted that she should rule the country according to their wishes. But she was a hard nut. So she had to sacrifice her life in the hands of some foreign agents who do not like the progress and development of India.

Vidence erupted all over the countries on her death as it was after the assasination of Matrin Luther king in the U.S.A. In the world history, those who, viz M.K. Gandhi, Abraham Lincoln, Matrin Luther King & John. F. Kennedy, faught for peace & unity, had been assasinated. Mrs Gandhi simply swelled this list. She dedicated her life like Socrates & Joan of Arc not only for her country but also for the people of the world against any violence, such as, Bangladesh, so on.

Her main drawback was that she could not check the corruption in her party. Maladministration is the main cause of her ~~party. Maladministration is~~ fateful death. Because her intelligence RAW also was not faithful. If not, they should let her know beforehand what conspiracy was going on against her. Now the report, ~~one~~ we are getting, not only her personal Security, her personal doctor was also involved in this conspiracy.

Her son Rajiv has got the cap of Prime Minister. In the face of the country wide orgy of violence erupted simultaneously with the spread of the news of assasination the need of the hour was to recommend Rajiv as the Prime Minister, as the most senior ministers in Mrs Gandhi's Cabinet, seeing the shadow of violence dared not the premiership.

The vaccume created by Indira Gandhi's death was

So great that only her son, though lacking both her charisma & her experience nonetheless, bearing her magic name, could be expected to fill it. So country's love for Mrs Gandhi will help Rajiv to conjure the mass with the name of his mother. Now India faces a critical time. Hope, yet India will survive with her democracy & secularism.

So your forecast has come true. Mr Regan has come back again. Of course, everybody expected so. Herewith 'am sending a cd cippling for you. Don't know how far these news are correct.

Let us see, how Rajiv rules the country with the help of the senior colleagues.

The winter is coming slowly. My health is not yet well. 'am still under doctor's treatment. So I have not yet ~~start~~ started my writings. Now I am reading & sometimes replying to letters.

How are you both?

With best regard for you both.

Yours Sincerely
Sipra

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta – 700019.
3.12.86.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Received your letter in due time.
Am glad to know about your achievements. Egerly
waiting to read your book.

I have sent one copy of ~~the~~ Gita by Air Mail
Regd. Book Post. The writer is well known in the World
for his knowledge and works.

I wanted to send you another foreign writer's book
which you would have appreciated But that is out of
market. No body can say whether it would be available
or not. If you are interested in it, you can get his
book in America. Because he was an American. His
name was Rolland Nixon (who is popularly known as
Swami Krishna Prem). The title of his book is "Man,
the measure of All Things". Any way, among all other
English translations of The Gita, Mr Radhakrishnan's
is the best. So I have sent one copy of his book.

Hope you will like it and will find new light
on Soul. You will get many new knowledge about
Soul and life after death. This book will be helpful
for you in your present state of mind.

'Am very sorry to tell you this copy of The Gita is the last copy of the author. All are finished. So though I found some torn pages of this book, but could not change. They can't say when they would get new edition of this book.

Though the month of November is finished, but there is no sign of cold wind. Though Jammu and Kashmir had severe snow fall and separated from the rest of India.

Political situation of India is not good. Almost in every state, the terrorists are disturbing. Of course, the ruling party is to be blamed for serious Mal-administration.

Economic condition of the country is very bad. Poor people are becoming poorer. Smugglers are becoming rich over night. Police always helps the notorious Smugglers, Decoits etc. So general mass are sufferings. Everybody wants to come under the umbrella of one or other political party. So to become over night rich. Such is the wretched condition of our Motherland. No party has any patriotism. Everybody is looking for his own interest and for the interest of his future generations. Those who are honest, sincere are suffering. Even the High

15.2.01.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

You are thinking that 'am busy with my writings, so I can't get time to reply your letter.

No, I am fighting against my fate. Soon after, I wrote to you, I received a phone call from the Ramkrishna Mission that I should keep an eye on the boy, who has come from the Ashram. Because, not only in their Ashram, in two other branches of the Ramkrishna Mission, he worked and had stolen many things. I, too, discover my many odd things were missing. But there was no body else who could steal. He was very clever. So they could not detect it before. Any way, I had to dismiss him.

Since, I am very busy with my household works without any servant so long. Moreover, cooking gas became scarce, so the pure kerosine. Any way, I had to cook with kerosine, fume of which is very injurious to my health. Moreover, no electricity, often and on, there was power cutting for hours together.

I could no progress in my writings, except just finishing one story for Bombay T.V. (Movie). They requested me to send a story which they would dramatise for T.V. Serial. The theme of which should be torture of women in our present Society.

Political and economical situation of India is very bad. Only God can help us, nobody else from this corrupt Govt.

Almost all over the world, there are some troubles. There is no peace in the World.

Sorry, to reply so late. My health is very bad. Doctors advised me to keep away from fire and water, which I can't for want of a servant.

Any way, please tell me how are you? How is your work progressing.

Considering my present difficult time, you always wish me that I should not waste my time by writing

हवाई पत्र
Aerogramme

Mrs Jean Dickie,
428, Monroe St 2,
Monterey. California 93940
U.S.A.

दूसरा मोड़ SECOND FOLD

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता:-
Sender's Name and Address:-

Sipra Dutt,
51/1, Karaya Road,
Calcutta-700019, India.

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रखिये
No Enclosures Allowed

पहला मो

to you. You probably cannot guess how your letters give me pleasure.

With best wishes and regards,

Sincerely
Sipra

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta – 700019
8.5.87.

My dear Mrs Dickie,

My pen is very poor to express my gratitude to you. When my mind is very much upset by the surrounding distress, your nice and sympathetic letters inspire me and encourage me. I think, it is God's blessing. I must thank you for your nice letter with various news.

I find from your letters, you are not only a great Artist but you are also a literary talent and your letters are educative.

My cousin is very thankful to you for your kind thought about him.

India has changed a lots after Independence Her all virtues are fading People from India are going to abroad. They are taking the bad habits of foreign countries, not good ones. So they don't stretch their helpful hands. People have become Selfish, jealous, self-centered and what not. So nobody comes forward to assist me or help me in my household works, so that I can devote my time in writing and reading. Moreover, they try how my literary works may hamper. I have become an object

of envy of people for my literary works, as was the fate of Poet Tagore before Winning Noble Prize.

I am glad to inform you of a recent compliment I have for my literary works from the Swamijis of Ramkrishna Mission who are vastly learned as you know.

It was in this way. When I was dying for a servant, a boy from the Ramkrishna Mission Ashram came to me for service. But the Swamiji of Ramkrishna Mission was not agreeable to release him unless he was satisfied where and to whom he was going. He introduced me as a writer. Swamiji wanted to see some sample of my writings. I sent one copy of my voluminous book. Swamiji sent it back to me requesting me to ring him. Instead, I requested him to ring me. He complied saying that this is our first talking ~~acquaintance~~ acquaintance, but we, the Ashram monks know you for a longtime through your books which are really valuable books. We occassionally, hold discourse in our religious diologue on your books. What is the subject matter of your next volume - he enquired. I told, "I am now trying to depict Krishna as

in the Mahabharata where the Gita occupies a conspicuous part". I consider it a great God's blessing to have such compliments from a very learned Society.

Now, you can see, I have got some relief in household works. So 'am getting some rest and trying to dedicate my time in my writings and readings.

It is a sad news that the Govt of Ceylon does not want to come into any settlement with the Govt of ~~Ceylon~~ India. Because lacs and lacs people evacuated from Ceylon to India. And India have to take the burden of these extra refugees. Every day thousands of Bengali Hindu and Muslims are coming to West Bengal from Bangladesh due to want of food and job. These Tamils are neither getting food, medicine or any other help from Sri Lanka Govt. So India Govt wants to send 4 ~~00~~ crore of rupees for their help on the humanity basis.

I read in to-day's Newspaper that Sri Lanka Govt views the decision of India Govt to send assistance to Militants in the islands as an interference in its internal affairs and hopes that India will not acquiesce to its sovereignty and

integrity in this open challenge. But the decision of India Govt to send what it professes to describe as humanitarian assistance. Sri Lanka Govt thinks by atrocity she would cow down Tamil Militants. Days are changed. Like East Pakistan, one fine morning, we may here that Tamils are liberated. India Govt try her best to come to a compromise between both the party, not by a arms but by discussion, both have to come to a settlement. But Sri Lanka Govt is not agreed with it. She wants to wipe out Tamils from the land of Ceylon who are the makers of that island.

Thanks for the leaves. Almost this sort of leaf can get in India too. We use it in curry for nice flavour.

Most probably, you have read that the political Situation of India is not good. There is a hitch between the President and the Prime Minister. The Govt of Pakistan may take advantage of it. So we public are eagrly waiting to see its end. Hope God will save India from this carrupt Govt.

This year instead of Summer, we have early

monsoon and strom. Don't know what will happen in the season of monsoon.

My cousin has not yet got his power. But using doctor's medicine and drops. Hope God will give back his vision.

How are you with your works?

With regards and best wishes to you from myself and my cousin.

Yours Sincerely
Sipra.

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta – 700019.
27.8.87.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Thanks much for your letter. Hope, you are well.

There are many things in your letter to answer. Swamiji of Ramkrishna Mission did not know beforehand that the boy was a thief. He was very smart and good in work. As soon as, he left the Ashram, they found many of their articles were missing. Then they rang up other branches of Mission where he was reported to have worked. Therefrom they came to know his conduct and at once they informed me. They should have handed over the boy to the police. But there are so much botherations of police case. So instead of putting him into jail, they dismissed him. And this boy had courage to cheat from one place to another.

My health is not good from my childhood. I was a patient of Septic tonsil. Often on, I had to suffer from cough, throat pain and fever. After recovery from it, I became patient of cronic bronchitis.

Servant problem is acute in India, specially in Calcutta. Since the communist Govt has been in power, there is very difficult to get servant. Not only in my house, almost in every house, there is a problem of the servant or the maid-servant. Because, all these poor boys & girls get good daily wages, if they work in the paddy field or in other work in

the villages either from the Govt or contractors. So now-a-days, they don't bother to do any domestic work. If they come in temptation of good salary and good food, they don't stick long. Because in the domestic work, they can't roam almost always whenever they like. In the village, they work only few hours at noon. After that, they are going to picture or waste their time to see V.D.O. etc. But in Calcutta, it is not safe to allow them to roam here and there. Because, then they may contact with some bad elements. And through these boys, thieves & dacoits get information of houses and according to convenience, they come in a house for dacoity or buglary.

Part-time boys are not available generally. Part-time maid-servants are available in some area. But they are also not reliable. Some days they will come, some days they won't come. If they won't come, housewife have to do all works. But they never say beforehand that they won't come. This is very much inconvenient for the housewife. In order to avoid irregularity, indiscipline and disorderliness, I have been avoiding maid servant all through. Moreover, I have a big dog. Generally, the maid servant does not work in the house, where is a dog. I used to tell the servants if they stick in the work, then I would give them lump sum money with which they would do some business afterwards. But nobody is a willing workes. They will work one or two months, then they leave. Now-a-days, these poor boys have become very laxy.

Indegenous people are not the real problem for

our misery. They live aloof from us. There are many women's problem, the main cause of bride-killing. The parents of a bride, generally give whatever is demanded by the groom party. But sometimes after, the in-laws of the bride insist on more money or dowery which the bride party fails to pay or denies to pay, the result is that the bride is killed by the husband and in-laws. This has become a common case after Independence. There is another problem that is, the harassment of the old parents at the hands of the daughter-in-laws. Because you know that there was a joint family system in India. So at their old age, parents get sufferings from the daughter-in-laws. These two are the main social problems in India to-day among the middle & upper class people.

Political and economical condition of India is very bad. There is a strong agitation against Rajiv's Government. Not only by opposition party, but also from his own Party for corruption.

We have very bad rainy season this year. Some days there are non-stop rain. The result is that some districts are flooded whereas some districts are in draught.

Bombay T. V. Movie has offered me Rs 2000/-.

After a long time, my cousin has got his glass. The doctor said, that your surgeon had almost make you blind by wrong operation. Thank God, that you have regained your sight. Here doctors are very callous. They don't bother for patient.

I should have replied earlier, but could not. Excuse the delay.

How are you with your writings and paintings. Greetings and good wishes to you from my cousin and myself.

Yours affectionately

S. Dutt.

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta – 700019
5.11.87.

My Dear Mrs Dickie,

Hope, by this time, you have received my another letter. Your letter of 30th Sept. reached me in time. Please excuse the delay in my replying considering my embarassed position.

Calcutta will be the last venue for the world cricket cup festival. Lot of enthusism, though people are suffering acutely from want of edible oil, gas, Kerosine oil and milk and milk powder.

I have read two shocking news about U.S.A. Really, they are very shocking to us. Firstly, ~~Sikhs~~ Sot bastard group are after the Indians in the U.S.A, attacking and killing by setting fire on the residential complex of the Indians in New Jersey, particularly. Secondly, the story of teenagers' killing their fathers for bestial crimes. It is horrible. Where the world is going? The U.S.A. is a vast country, rich country but in moral values, the states are very poor, which dimmed all their glories into nothing. I think, people like you are very rare there. Of course, India was once at the hight of religious attainments, but degeneration has setting and honesty has become a rare ~~venture~~ virtue.

I'm very glad to know that your book will soon come out in the market. Hope, by the grace of God, you will be renowed by this book. Looking forward to

read your that precious nice book.

Sorry to tell you that hundreds of villages of West Bengal are still under water. Poor villagers are almost in starvation, no roof on their heads, no clothings to put on, West Bengal Govt. does not care to look after them. The Govt is throwing Crores for Reliance Cup. But Winter is Knocking at the door. A ticket of Rs 500/- is selling in the black market at Rs 10,000/- That means poverty is grinding one portion of the population and black money is swelling in the other part of the population. This is the present condition of India. Here almost all the factories are closed and million of workers are out of job. A worker come with a pathetic story to-day that by selling his own blood he maintained his family so long. To-day, he went again to sell his own blood for money, but there is no blood to sell and begging from door to door.

Rainy season is still continuing to our great annoyance. Can't help, as Nature cannot be checked. I Am still now without out of any servant. So I can't get time to reply earlier.

How are you?

With best wishes and regards to you,

Yours Sincerely

Sibra.

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta-700019
20.12.87.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Your letter of 23rd Nov has relieved my anxiety very much. As you always write back to me quickly on receipt of my letter, I received your last letter almost two months after, which made me anxious about your health.

Did not you receive my Vijaya greeting letter which was posted on 2nd Oct?

Received your nice card carrying your hearty wishes. Thanks for the same.

'Am sorry to hear that there was some problem with your book. It is printer's Devil and it is common everywhere. I am glad to know that it has been detected in time and the injury has been mended up. I hope that your book will come out very soon. New Year will bring the good news to me.

Winter has come in. But there is no good news about my domestic affairs. India is not so developed as your's. I am to do everything by my own hands, which has robbed me of my valuable time for my literary work. This is my only regret.

The World Criket Cup is over in great jubilation and Australia has won the Trophy. India failed only for lack of National feeling and team spirit.

You might have seen in T.V. the latest Royal

Wedding in India which reminds the golden days of India at one time. How poor is Idia to-day! According to the foreign journalists ~~of~~ the Wedding surpassed the Prince Charles' Wedding in pomp and grandeur.

By this time, you are quite well through God's blessings.

We wish you Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and a New Year of fame and fortune.

Sorry, the card is not to my liking as myself have not bought it for want of time and ill health.

With affectionate regards

Sipra

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta - 700019
25. 2. 88

My Dear Mrs Dickie,

Received your letter of 17th Jan. My letter has crossed yours. I feel relieved that you are alright.

Am very glad to know that you are arranging to perpetuate your noble father's name. It is laudable object and befitting you.

I have too, in my mind, to give away my father's Calcutta property for "Old Age Home." My father's Chittagong properties are lost. Our India Govt though promised to give us compensation for the properties, but the promise is time-barred, as it is 13 yrs old. Now there is no chance of getting any money from the Govt as our present Prime Minister is highly lavish on his own account, enjoying pleasure trips with a horde of his Italian relations spending crores in each trip, as reported by "The London Times." Mr Rajiv Gandhi thinks himself to be the king of India and not a Prime Minister of a Democratic Govt. The Budget session starts to-day. I am afraid, a huge deficit budget will be presented soon, which requires borrowing from any country and every country.

I have already donated to the Bharat Sevasram Sangha which has built a block of furnished rooms for the use of the pilgrims at Gaya, a holy place, in U.P. in my parents' name. It is near Budh-gaya, most probably you have visited that place.

I am sorry for delay in replying your letter. Because I am too tired and was keeping indifferent health. Of course, at present I have got one maid and a boy servant for wholetime. Oh! What a great relief!

I think you are going on well with your writings.

Now I can give you some news about Reva. After a long-time, all on a sudden she wrote to me and my cousin all for herself.

From her letters we have come to know that without our knowledge, she came 4 yrs back in Calcutta for two weeks and purchased a flat and went back. She kept her flat in the care of a family as a care-taker and whenever she would visit Calcutta, She would stay with them in her flat. But soon after she purchased the property, the family, whom she put in was after grabbing the flat, so they did not behave properly with her. After returning to U.S.A, she gave them notice to quit her flat. But they are not leaving the flat. Moreover, many more complications arise with that flat.

Firstly, the mutation of her name, 2ndly, she used to send her proportionate corporation Tax to the owner of the flat to deposit. But after a longtime it has been detected that he has not paid the Corporation Tax including her share. So she became defaulter in the Corporation Office. 3rdly, Her original document of title, she has not received though many years have passed.

As her nature has changed so much that she could not adjust with any relation. So she purchased this flat. But it has also become a headache for her. Neither she is getting the original document, nor can she put her name in the mutation register. Moreover, legal complications have arisen. So to help her in these matters, She wrote to us. Now She wants to sell her house. But as she does not

get her original document, so she can't sell her property.

The receipt of the original document is with her care-taker. So now she is in trouble with her Calcutta property. But we can give her very little help. Only we have given her information that her original document is now ready, she can have it on production of the original receipt. My cousin can write to the Mayor of Calcutta for mutation of her name. But he can't as he does not know anything about that property. He asked for all these, so that he can help her. But she is not in possession of all these. She left all these with her care-taker. The care-taker knows in her absence, no relation will go to claim her lawful share of that property. So the family concealed everything from her to prevent her from selling the property.

I wrote to her, when you did not like to stay with us or any relation, you could easily put up in any hotel when you would come to Calcutta. What was the use of purchasing a flat and suffer so much agony. She is annoyed with me. The real object is that she wanted to make a show of her wealth. So she purchased the flat.

She has purchased a two-storied house in New Jersey. She is living in the 2nd floor and a tenant is living in the 1st floor, ground floor is being used as garage. She has retired. She wrote to me that she is practicing there. This is all about her.

I know, she has no pen connection with any relation. Whenever she needs any help from anybody

Answered 4/20/88

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta - 700019
31.3.88

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Your letter of 9th March reached, on 21st instant.

The more people of India, advanced and qualified, are going abroad, the more the joint family system is breaking down. I heard from my eldest Sister-in-law who was an English Lady, that in their Society (in London) when a son would get married parents would shed tears, because their loving son would leave them for his new home with his wife. I could not then really realise the sorrow of Western parents. But now I feel it squarely.

We were proud of our joint family system and it had many advantages too. In our family, in our childhood, I saw our cousins were being brought up in our family. in our Chittagong house as all in one. Those days were really happy and pleasant. Now-a-days, almost in all family, save a lucky one, sons cut off family tie with parents and their attachment grows towards in-law's family. At the old age, the condition of such forlorn, not only by sons, but also by wealth as the parents have already spent their fortune after their sons, is painfully miserable. Even if some of them might have been left in plenty, yet their sentiment, emotion and sensitiveness make them miserable.

The folly of some parents is aggravated when in order to save Government duties after death, they part with their properties in their life time to their children.

One will be horrified to know about the present Society

Some crooks have set up some old age home, at a comfortable place for the old rich people with a motive which is only money squeezing. They charge thousands and thousands as monthly rent as advance payment nearly lacs, again as security" also big sum of money. Not only that, some category of resident is not allowed to see their visitors or relations. Another queer condition is that the old people shall have to give full particulars of what money and property they have ~~at~~ in what places without concealing any thing. If for any reason the old person leaves that home, he or she will not get any money back. So we find, these are not any Philanthropic organisation. They are squeezing bank. None will go to live there unless one is in desparate need. I don't think old person's life will be safe there. who can assure that such organisations may not wind up any day? Courts of justice are like "Merry Go Round". Honest litigants are tried of courts. A suit takes 10/12 years to finish

There is no old age home for middle class or low middle class-those who can't afford such a huge money

It is a great problem in India. Every media is showing the advantages of joint family system. Dialogues are being held on this problem, but people's hearts are not melting. They have forgetting that once they would also become old. The lesson they are leaving to their children, will recoil on them as well.

Condition of India is not happy. Prices of commodities are daily going up. Corruption has over-cast the country. Unemployment is sapping the energy of the young. To forget the sufferings some are turning to drugs.

Second World War has fully disturbed the balance of Social life. All kinds of evils have raised their ugly heads throughout the globe. The crook and the wicked are reaping advantages of this phenomenon. Drugs have created a big problem to all right thinking persons.

Summer has come. Bengali New Year day is on the 14th April. Please accept our New Year's greetings.

How is your work going on? How is your health? Please do take care of your health.

Please accept my regards and best wishes and also of my cousin.

Yours faithfully,
Sipra

S.S.

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta - 700019
29.4.88

Rev. Jackson was quoting 27% of the Democratic vote
He said, "The race is not to the swift and the strong,
I'm a long distance runner. It's
for close more to turn around."

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Thanks for your Magazine clipping. It is a splendid idea of your to send this for me. With great interest, I have gone through it. The intelligentia of the land do not like Rajiv's interference in Sri Lanka affairs. Indian Soldiers are lossing their lives. So depression has come among them. Moreover, India has no interest in the internal affairs of Sri Lanka. Why should these Indian Soldiers Should kill their brothers. Because these Tamils are the fore-fathers of Tamilnadu. Here in Tamilnadu, Tamils are against peace soldiers. It has been revealed that Rajiv Gandhi has given one Core of rupees (to LTTE) to continue this fight among themselves. When the matter arose in the parliament, Rajiv admitted the truth but according to him the amount was for the rehabilation of the Tamils, which is hardly true.

The main point is that, he wants to divert the attention of the Public from the Kick-back of Bofors case to Sri Lanka. Because he has taken crores of rupees from them through some of his friends. These arms are rejected goods. Only by taking

big kick-back, he approved these goods. He has no national feeling or patriotism. So what can we expect from him!

Really, we the Indians are passing very bad times for want of a good sincere, patriotic leader. If the head of the nation is corrupt, how can we expect that general mass will be good, honest, sincere? Every-day, so many things are coming out against Rajiv. Illiterate labour or worker is also criticising him and accusing him. Day by day, he is losing people's confidence. He is a foolish fellow, only knows how to fill up his purse for his future generation. He has no interest for India but for Italian his in-law's country. His father-in-law was a common man. Since he came to power, his all in-laws have become very very rich. These are our daily news-paper story. He is a shameless fellow, so he is not resigning from the noble post of which he is not worthy.

If you ever hear that his end be like his young brother Sanjay and mother Indira, you would not be suprised. People are fed up of him. Sanjay also had been murdered, his death was not an accident. Rajiv is worthless a ruler and nobody listens to him. He also knows that his days are counted So if he runaway from India, we won't be suprised.

I read in Logic a fallacious Syllogism — Governor rules the country. Governor's wife rules the Governor. So, Governor's wife rules the country. This is India to-day.

It is an age for dishonest, unscruple person. Almost in every party, such as Congress, Communist party, those who are sincere, honest, faithful are being ousted from the party. Those who criticise their party for corruption and dishonesty are being expelled from Party. Such is the reward of this age.

Hope, you have got my another letter.

How are you? Take care of your health.

Please accept my best wishes and regards.

Yours Sincerely

Sipra..

P. S. Just now received your letter of 25th April. I shall write more afterwards about new developments.

It has come out in our newspaper that Mr George Bush won a resounding Republican victory & predicted the state would deliver the final delegates needed to clinch the nomination.

Mr Dukakis was gaining 67% of the vote with 60% of the precincts counted, & said his victory would be "very very helpful" in his quest for the White House.

51/1, Karaya Road,
Calcutta - 700019
7.6.88

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Long time has passed that I wrote to you. But your silence has worried me. Don't know if you have written me that might have gone astray which is very common in India to-day. Because many of my letters go astray.

How are you? Are you busy with your creative work or domestic affairs? Or I have missed your valueable letter.

Your country is busy with the coming Presidential election. It is not amazing that Rev. Jackson has won the majority of votes in some states and an impressive second position in the primaries as a whole? Really it is a great wonder! People of U.S.A. have become more liberal than others. So Rev Jesse Jackson demands Vice-Presidency. World psychology has taken a new turn. U.S.A. is setting the example. Sympathetic and benevolent people at some places are responsible for Rev. Jackson's securing the second position. People could not dream it a few years back.

Like U.S.A, in Russia also people can find some new development which we can't dream a few years back, namely, all the doors of the churches are opened for all. Not only the doors of churches, now they are inviting the religious Hindu Monks. Some representatives from Russia came to Calcutta and visited The Ramkrishna Mission Ashram and

The Bharat Sevakashram. They have invited the Swamiji of the Ramkrishna Ashram to visit Russia. It is a communist country. All religions were prohibited there. But what a great change!

The otherday, I read one article in the newspaper that the muslim population in U.S.A. is increasing so fast that it is not very far that muslim of U.S.A. will occupy U.S.A. as palestine has been by the Israil. How you think about it? It has been written that the population of your city is of majority muslim.

The political situation of India is worsening day by day. Unrest prevails almost in all the States. The economic condition is very bad. Corruption has joined hands with all sorts of vices. Except God, there is no one to save the people of India.

No more for the present. Please do let me know how are you, if you have no time to write more.

With best regards to you,

Yours Sincerely

Sipra

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta – 700019.
9.8.88.

Dear Mrs Sickie,

Much relieved to receive your letter after so long a silence. It seems you are trying all out about your property.

Uptill now I have not been able to carry out my project as to my property, because the tenants are not leaving. Though legally they have no right to linger there on through underhand means. Of course, they must have to vacate their flats within a very short time. Judiciary has become so corrupt that honest litigants hesitate to go through any litigation through court. Because between two litigants-parties who can give more money, the judgement will go on his or her favour, though the law is not on his or her side.

My cousin Mr Bose is a dead enemy to corruption. He always fights against this corruption. The result is that two chief Justices of the High Court have been transferred to other courts in India. Any way, I am confident that God will help me to fullfil my wish.

You will be glad to know that recently my another book for children has come out in the market. The publisher took a longtime to publish. It should have come out one year back. Don't know when my

other books will see the light of the book world.

The condition of India is very bad. In Calcutta more than 500 people have become paralytic patient after taking adultarated oil from Ration Shop. In Old Delhi, more than 800 people died and more than 1000 people are suffering from Cholera. These are the examples of the administration of the country. Corruption has over-cast each and every Department of the country. Leaders are busy to fill their purse. There is no law and order. Young generations have lost all the glamour in their lives. So they are being addicted to Drugs. The rich, upper-middle class, and poor class teenagers are mostly affected in this country from Drugs. Of course, it is a world problem to-day. But poor country, like India should not go into its clutches. Leaders are to be blamed, because one may imagine that it is a political policy.

In the regim of Rajiv Gandhi, the corruption in India has increased. As he is corrupt, so he indulges in it. So top to bottom in all Deptt, there is nothing but corruption. Even you can't get any food without adultaration, of course, difference in degree only. It is God's blessing that still we are living. Day by day, the price of every thing is soaring up, sometimes beyond the reach of the common people. Economic condition is awful.

Now as to some examples of corruption in the publishing line. One Internationally renowned Artist of 93 yrs old told in a T.V. interview that he published one of his famous books in 1925 in London. Its second edition, came out from Calcutta in 1940. Two years back, one Japanese gentleman went to see him in Santiniketan with the 3rd. edition of his book about which he had no knowledge of this edition, Each copy of this book is selling at Rs 250. But the publisher neither has taken any permission from him, nor giving him any royality. He filed a suit against the publisher in Calcutta. But as both the husband and wife are too old to-day, one is 93, the other 86 without a son, so it is not possible for them to carry any suit. The publisher knows it very well. So he ~~dared~~ dared to piracy.

Another reputed writer died the other day at his ripe old age. It has come out in the newspaper after his death that, he would get 60 to 70 thousand Rupees from a publisher. But he paid nothing. Another publisher also took the responsibility ~~of~~ to publish all his works Volume by Volume. These books are selling like hot cakes profitting the publisher only. Poor old writer ended his life in want and suffering from Cancer. How many instances will I cite about the lots of authors in India. At

least in your country or any other foreign country, the writers are not deprived in this way. Here the publishers are very rich. All of them have got two to 50 houses not only in Calcutta, all over India. They are roaming whole world by air. What not, forgetting fully at whose cost he and his family are enjoying. To go to court for justice, is neither easy, not only too costly, but justice is delayed as well as uncertain.

This long letter may annoy you. To give a detailed picture where we are living on, so this long a letter.

How are you? How is your work going on?

With best regards to you.

Yours Sincerely

Sfpra.

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta – 700019
5.10.88.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

I appreciate your letter. Election in your country is fair one. So people of your country are interested in election.

But what a sordid affair it is in our country to win an election? One international tennis champanion of 26 yrs of age has been murdered by our ruling party, caused by some high-up to implicate his (Rajiv's) opponent in the murder – thus to get rid of him. The so called suspect of the crime is from a Raj family, young fellow, highly educated and was once very much friendly with Nehru family, without whose help neither Indira Gandhi, nor Sanjay Gandhi nor Rajiv Gandhi could ever win any election in their electorate. Moreover, once he was in the Rajiv's Ministry. So he knows many of his secret transctions with the foreign countries. Without him, Rajiv's chance of return is very thin. So the murder and false implication.

As all sincere and honest leaders are leaving Rajiv's party and trying to form a new party, So this gentleman was also fed up of his all sorts of corrupt actions, so he resigned from his ministry and party and joined in Rajiv's counter united opposition party.

Now C.B.I. is trumping him saying if he assists the P.M., then all cases against him would be withdrawn.

Rajiv's grandfather and mother were not so much low, as he is. About the murder of his mother, he is shielding the real culprit and trying to hang two innocent persons.

Rajiv is getting tons of money from different foreign countries, such as West Germany, Switzerland, Japan etc as kick back. People are fed up. Unfortunately, in India, opposition parties are many in number, so unity is a rare thing. All these opposition parties are now not idle but trying to be united together. Rajiv is also trying his best to purchase some opposition leaders, so that they may not join the united opposition block. He is losing confidence of people, even in his own party. So there cannot be an honest regular election, since Rajiv has become the P.M. So people have very little interest in casting votes.

Really, it is a very bad time for India who has lost her all sincere, honest and patriots and people like Rajiv is ruling the country whose regime will remain marked in history as an age of corruption.

Moreover, he indulges therein. What more shall I write about him. Nor you have time to read the same.

The Autumn Season has come. Yet it is pouring everyday. So flood is almost in every district of every State. The Govt. does not bother for it, as if it is a common phenomena. Every year, there is flood just after rain. Thousands of people are effected by flood. Hundreds are losing lives. Only God Knows when we will

get rid of Rajiv and will get some good honest sincere ruler of kind heart towards his people.

Most probably, you have read that there were severe earthquake in some districts of India. The toll of death was considerable. Not only one day, some days continuously earthquake was repeated. The loss of properties was heavy. Really, it was sad. There were earthquakes on two occasions in Calcutta also, but not so severe, so no casualty. All these news might be boring to you, I should stop here.

Colourful Olympic games started. A few days people forgot all their anxities and worries by Olympic thrill and cheers.

Very glad to know that your work has come out.

Just now received your letter of 4 Sept. It took a longtime to reach me. Previously within 4 days, we used to receive U. S. A's letter.

Not only flood in Bangladesh, there is a great genocide in Bangladesh. It is the sad lot of Hindus, Buddhists and Christians. Their lives, properties and honour are in peril. Girls of these communities are systematically abducted, raped and sold to Arab countries or converted to Moslem faith. People in thousands are trying to cross to West Bengal for safety.

Natural calamity, like flood, earthquake in Bangladesh

shook up but what shaking Bangladesh is ~ President Esrad wants to convert Bangladesh into Islamic country. So what he is doing through some anti social elements whom he has taken as his party members. causing to commit all sorts of barbarous act in the country. In this way, they are trying to force out the minority communities, and acquire their wealth and property and distribute among those Muslim Rajakar, Al-badar (all these are anti social organisations). These news do not get publicity in any media. But we are getting these news from who are coming from Bangladesh as well as from some social organisation of India.

But what India is doing here? They are too liberal to Muslim community, only to secure their votes. What a fool these leaders! Already they are casting vote in favour of Muslim league. There is no bar to poligamy, no family planning for the Muslim. They are not to abide by the rules and regulations of the country. They are erecting unauthorised Mosques here and there without taking sanction of the corporation, with the help of petro-dollar from Arab.

These muslims know the weakness of our present rulers and police. So by bribing, they are doing many kinds of unauthorised constructions

violating the order even of High Court. Neither police nor corporation authority are taking any step against them. Because they are not interested for the Nation or country. They are filling their pockets with Petro-dollars. Their plan is to occupy India in this way and make it another Islamic country.

'Am in great anxiety. My cousin Mr Bose alone is fighting against this and every kind of corruption in this country. Local police post and corporation are not caring for High Court orders. They consider my Cousin as an obstacle to meet their craze for money. Please pray to God for his safety.

No more for the present.

How are your?

With best regards and love

Yours affly

Sifra.

P.S. Please mind not bad hand due to running temperature.

8.8.

3.11.88.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Sorry for the delay in acknowledging the receipt of your nice book. Because my health is not yet fit, 'am still suffering from my old disease. Moreover, there is no menial to assit me. Our Puja festival is over. Just before a week of the Puja our Sweeper went home without giving any substitute. Before that I had no servant or maid, change of season, so I have to do all works by myself with the help of my cousin. Now-a-days servant problem is so acute here. Moreover, they are not trustworthy.

Anyway, thanks much for your nice book. Though I have little knowledge about Art, but the illustrations help me a lot to understand it. It is a good memorable book on Mr Dickie.

Two days back, I have received your letter of 17th Oct. Of course, people from other country would not believe what is going on in India. Really, we are unfortunate to lose all faithful nationalist leaders. Sealed pages of a book written by a Colleague of Nehru's cabinet, a decade after the independence, have recently been unsealed, which reveal that choice of Nehru as Prime Minister was a great blunder in Indian Politics. The pages contain many things against Nehru as a Politician. Behold, this is the centenary year of Nehru.

State chief ministers also are corrupt like Rajiv Gandhi. They are doing the samething as Rajiv is doing at the centre.

No more for the present. Please excuse me for the delay in replying to you.

How are you? [illegible] your another book. 'am looking foward for that book as well.

With our Bijaya Greetings to you with Kindest regards.

With love,

Affly,

Sipra

हवाई पत्र
Aerogramme

Mrs Jean Dickie,
428 Monroe St 2,
Monterey California 93940
U.S.A

दूसरा मोड़ SECOND FOLD

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता:-
Sender's Name and Address:-

S. Dutt,
51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta - 700019.

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रखिये
No Enclosures Allowed

13. 12. 88.

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta – 700019.

My dear Mrs Dickie,

It is pretty long that 'am not hearing from you. Hope, you have received my last letter.

A great tornado swept our West Bengal and Bangladesh. People in thousands have lost their lives and homes and properties. Many thousand domestic animals also had died in this havoc. Winter has come, but these poor people have no roof to live under, nothing to wear or morsel of food. Reliefs are not being properly distributed among the Sufferers. Almost every year either by flood, or draught or tornado poor people suffer. But State Govt. does not bother to take some precaution ahead of the calamity. So that they might not have to suffer. Don't Know why God always send such hard punishment for these wretched people. Of course, we also do suffer though mild such as big branches of different trees crack around the garden. Most probably you have seen the catastrophy in your movie.

Really, it is a shocking news that more than a lakh of people are killed due to the devastation of earthquake in Soviet land. Entire cities are razed, thousands rendered homeless. Big powers are progressing

in science. They are implementing Star War. But they can't investigate or forecast an earthquake. What a pity! Here we have to surrender to the Almighty.

Hope, you are pleased to get your expected President Mr Bush. But people of India, specially, are sorry. Because they prefer Mr Dukakis.

After an eleven-year old struggle Late Mr Bhutto's daughter Benazir has become the 7th Lady Prime Minister in the world. But no lady Prime Minister had to go through such a painful struggle before. She is a very intelligent lady. Hope, She would be able to guide her country properly. God only knows how long she will be allowed to be a P.M. in Pakistan. Because as she is a lady, the fundamentalists abhor the idea. Secondly, Pakistan does not like the idea of democracy. The fundamentalists of Pakistan prefer to be dictated by the Military. The military also do not like that Mrs Benazir should be the P.M. of Pakistan. She will have to move with a very cautious step. Let us hope her successful career. Of course, most people of her country now like democracy. Because they have a very bitter experience of Military dictatorship for a longtime.

After a long expectation my book which contains 30 stories of present ~~at~~ miserable days of

old parents, how they are neglected by their children at the end of their lives, has come out in the market. Now-a-days, people are found lamenting over the receding joint family system of the past. In T. V. or Radio or in Newspapers discussions are often being held about the ill-effect of broken family. But young generations do not take any notice of such discussions. My publisher hopes a good market for this book as it is a book of the time.

How are you? Are you still busy with your works? What about your that book (your parent's biography)? I am longing to read that book. You have already sent some portion of it. I know what time publishers take to publish a book.

Here is a card for you. Pecock is our national Bird. Hope you will like it.

Wishing you good health and peaceful life of fame and name.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas And a Happy New Year.

Yours Sincerely

Sipra

P.S. Just now received your nice card with your good wishes. Thanks.

S.D.

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta -700019
1.3.89.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Your letter of 12.31.88 was in hand on 13.1.89.

I am sorry to reply the same so late, I am in deep sea. All over January, I don't know how I spent the whole month with so much trouble and worries. My cousin was bedridden with high temperature and other complications. As our hospitals are not reliable, so I had to keep him at home. At that time, no sweeper, no servant. So from morning to late night, I had to do all works including nursing of the patient alone. Now he is convalescing. The sweeper has come back. But uptil now no servant to assit me. With God's blessings I have overcome all difficulties except servant problem.

Mr Dickie's drawing card is very nice. He has done it nicely but in the very simple way. Really he was a talented Artist.

This year winter is late to leave. Though it is the time for spring, but still we are getting cold wind. Snow fall in Kashmir, Darjeeling is constant, So we are getting cold breeze in the Spring month.

There may be new trouble on Afganithan.

Some big Powers do not like to have peace in the world, though they always superficially talk about World peace.

Muslim community are really fanatic. Mr Salman Rushdie has written a book "The Satanic Verses" by name. The book is based on Islam. He wanted to show Islam in different way or I may say he has explained Muslim religion in another way. So the fanatic muslim community's enraged on him. The Iranian President Khomeini commanded the execution of Rushdie. Of course, the intelligentia class all over whole world speak in contempt of this punishment. You know in America also there is some sensation over it. Of course, to please Muslim community Mr Rajiv Gandhi has banned this book. But the publishers, book-sellers and intelligent class opposed this attitude. Now the Hindus are more liberal. Because they are protraying Rama and Krishna in different ways flashing on the darkside of their characters. All people may not like the idea, but they are not so much fanatic.

I have to do so much domestic work that now I get tired quickly and have no time to do my literary work which is principal work in my life.

Sorry, for my bad hand, because of candle light and awful load-shedding.

No more for the present. Hope, you are well and busy with your literary works and paintings.

How are you?

With love and regards

Yours affly

Sipra

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta – 700019
13.4.89

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Thanks for your short note. My cousin is improving. He is attending the court and busy with his profession.

After a long time, I have got a boy servant to assist me in the household works. He is a Behari boy. He has come to see Calcutta and his relation put him to our house for some job. Because, at home, he neither studies nor does any work. That's why he has been sent here. He is a sweet nature boy but very naughty. Don't know how long he will stay.

Spring has come. Even then we get sometime cold breeze

Calcutta is always hot with so many political problems. Every party is critizing the other, political murder is increasing day by day. Public are very much disgusted. Because both in the State and at the centre taxes are being imposed on essential articles. The ministers, as a class whether of State or of the centre are spending money lavishly, and poor public have to suffer for their wrong.

Two shiks had been hanged for the murder of Indira Gandhi. One of them, was really innocent. Those who were

in the conspiracy of murder were promotted in their job. After 4 years of assasination, when opposition parties are very much agitated about this, now the Govt. are filing case against those officers. God save this country

'am not so well. Till now 'am feeling exhausted. So I can't mind on my literary work.

The first chief minister of West Bengal after Independence was Dr B. C. Roy. He was a renowned Doctor, not only in India but also in abroad. He was such an efficient doctor that only by glancing at the patient, he could detect the disease of the patient. He is remembered to-day as a noble politician also.

The Bengali New Year beging from 14th April. Please accept our greetings of the new year.

How are you? Hope, your all works are going on nicely. With best wishes and love.

Yours Sincerely

S[redacted]

500 U.S. banks go broke

WASHINGTON, May 8. — Five hundred of the USA's savings banks have already been declared broke, and of the remaining 2,950 savings banks (also called thrifts or savings and loan associations), probably 1,000 are likely to be insolvent, according to an article in the Washington Post, reports PTI.

The Bush Administration already estimates the cost of the bail-out at $ 157 billion. This is regarded by many as a gross underestimate. The Post said that the economic assumptions of the Administration use "smoke-and-mirrors". Congressman Henry Golzalez estimates the cost of the eventual bail-out at $ 183 billion.

tion is made. When such proceedings have not been initiated or are only in contemplation, any publication relating to it will not be regarded as contempt.

The English Act was enacted, as stated above, on the basis of the recommendations of the Phillimore Committee, but the fillip was administered also by the European Court of Human Rights to which The Times, London, complained against being held liable for contempt for its comments in the Thalidomide case. The House of Lords found The Times guilty because they felt that "the interests of justice were paramount and required that a wide net be cast to avoid any possibility of interference".

The European Court of Human Rights held that the decision of the House of Lords in The Times case contravened the provisions

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta – 700019
16. 5. 89.

FSLIC

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Hope, you have received my letter in the meantime.

One item of news published in our Daily Newspaper 'The Statesman' forces me to rush to you for clarification. 'Am very much puzzled over this. Herewith 'am sending the cutting of the news. I am surprised to read this news. What does the news mean? How banks in a rich country, like U.S.A. can be bankcrupt like this? Moreover how at a time 500 banks go broke and 1000 banks are likely to be insolvent? When U.S.A. government helps people of the World with loans of huge sums, then how her own citizens' money are not saved in their respective Bank? Really, I can't understand the meaning of this mishap.

Many years back, just after the 2nd world war, in our country a few private banks faced severe run and collapsed and thousands of people lost not only their money, but many people had lost their jewellaries also. Because at that time, there was no locker system in the Bank. People used to keep their jewellaries in a box in the custody of Banks. This shock made people

mad, some of them died of heart failure. The owner of the banks or directors of the banks had been punished by the govt. But those people who had lost their fortune, they could not get any compensation from anywhere. Since then, India Govt does not allow any bank to operate here without keeping reasonable amount in the Reserve Bank of India.

Anyway, I think, U.S.A. Govt will look into the matter and the constituents of those banks will not be destitute like the Indians.

Hope, your banks are not in these banks. Don't know what is the fate of Reva. She has wasted a few lacs of money by purchasing a flat in Calcutta which she can't recover from her caretaker, moreover if she loses any money, then she will go mad.

I pray to God for the safety of both of you and peace of mind and good health.

No more for the present. Please drop me a line and let me know what is going on there and how it is possible in a country like the U.S.A.

With best wishes and love,

Yours
Affly
Sipra

51/1 Karaya Road,
Cal- 700019
4.7.89.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

I am grateful to you for your writing all about the break of so many banks of your country at the cost of your valuable time.

Though India is much back in this regard, but India is developing in scientific resources. She can now make by herself missile, rocket etc without outside help. Not only arms, she is trying to increase her food production. Young scientists are trying hard to invent new sophisticated electronic goods so that their motherland can develop all round. Doctors can operate Open-heart surgery in India even in Calcutta. Previously patients had to go to U.S.A or U.S.S.R for such critical operations.

If the ruler had been honest, sincere and real feeling for the country, then the picture of India would be quite different to-day. General mass are sincere with genuine love for the country. Because of the corruption in the ruling party, India's progress is far below expectation. Our ruling party's another name is "Corporation of corrupt persons"

Communism is on the wane. Look at the present

U-S-S.R, the revolt of the students in China, the recent election result in Poland. What is now going in China, is nothing but barbarism. Chinese students were non-violent, but the ruler of the country forced them to accept their policy by carnage. By forcing, one cannot establish a policy on others. Leaders always forget the history.

To speak the truth the so-called communism is nothing but dictatorship or worst than that. So general mass of these countries oppose it. Sooner or later will have to change her policy. By opressing one cannot control any agitation for long. Pakistan could not triumph over the agitation of the muslims of East Bengal. So the British Govt also could not bring into control the terrorism of Indian patriots. So she had to leave India.

In communist country also there are two classes- rich and poor. All are not enjoying the same privileges. I don't know if you had visited any communist country. I heard that visitors are not allowed to move freely all around the country, specially where poor people are living. If all of them would enjoy the same advantages and privileges then there cannot be any agitation.

In West Bengal also communist leaders' bank balance is increasing, those who have come from very

poor class by now they have become millionaire. On the other hand, in the village or those who are ordinary cadre of the party, they have nothing and are living hand to mouth. So now many followers are leaving the party joining Congress party. But the party is not allowing this. So they are tourtured, their houses are burnt, they are murdered, their crops are being snatched. Local police station is not writing any diary against any communist leader. You cannot imagine what a pitiable condition of these wretched people!!

Monsoon has started here. I have not received any letter from you for a couple of months. except the last one.

Hope that you are busy with your creative works. Through God's grace you are in good health and spirit.

With best wishes and regard of both of us.

Yours Affthy

Sipra

51/1 Karaya Road
Calcutta – 700019
25. 8. 89.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Sorry to note about your illness. May God help you to regain your strength soon, Is it not funny, in our old age when we require more strenth and energy, then nature robs us of these valuable blessings. We become more and more weak as if nature wants to hasten decay. Even then, our strong will regains them to sustain ourselves in our solitude.

I am glad to know that you are busy with your creative works. If anybody can devote oneself unto ones favourite works one can forget all wants - Such an absoption is essential for a creative artist. But sometimes enviornment obstructs it. Those who are not strong-minded they can hardly survive such kind of natural onslaught.

This year also many villages and towns were under water due to heavy rains. The Govt as usual is indifferent.

Now political climate of India is very hot. Every party is busy for the next election. Mr Gandhi's condition is not favourable. Because of some foul acts, namely accepting Kickbag in the purchasing of some rejected

weapons which would be of poor help of the country. Secondly, assasination of his mother Indira Gandhi. Members of his family with some officers are responsible for it, which he has been trying his best to conceal. But this is the time, he will have to face these critical matters.

His mother and grandfather were more intelligent than him. He cannot take correct decision. The result is that his decision recoils on him with a disastrous result.

There is no peace in the world. One or other trouble is in each and every country.

It had been written in our religious books that when destruction of the world is nearer, then there would be chaos and disorder all over the world. Pious or religious people will suffer, dishonest people will thrive temporarily and the saviour reappears to punish the wicked and help the honest.

When the ruler of any country is dishonest, then Sufferings are the fate of the mass, there won't be rain in due time, result is draught or there will be heavy rain, and then whole country will be flooded. The younger generation will not respect the superior or relations. They disobey their parents, teachers and will do what they should not do. Everywhere there will be corruption, crimes overcast every place etc. By seeing.

all these, it reminds me that end or change of the world is not very far.

I should not distrub you long as you are not well. Hope when my letter reaches you, you will be fully normal with your usual vigour.

Rain is over. So we are getting sunny days. Hope you are also having nice climate now.

How are you?

With best wishes and regards from me and Mr Bose.

Yours
affthy,
Sipra

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta-700019
24.10.89.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Received your letter. Sorry, to reply, in such delay due to my ill health.

I have read a news of a devastating earthquake in California. I am sure, it is far from your place. I trust you are safe and sound. The delay in enquiring about you is due to my ill health.

Hot fever of election is on in our country. It will be an interesting fight. People are against Rajiv. But he is throwing money like anything. So the result of election campaign is very uncertain. Specially in a country where the bulk of people is illiterate and poor. No doubt, the present is a regime of corruption and corruption. Majority people are unhappy because of price rise and scarcity etc. except those who are making black money, whose strength is not negligible It can be said that this is a day for black marketeers and musclemen.

Corruption is the rule of the country. All Law Courts are vale of tears for the honest litigant.

Probably you have read of a great movement, all most whole world wide for re-building the temple of Ram and Sita (the hero and heroine of the Ramayana) in Ayadhya which was desecraded by the muslims during the reign

of Babar. It might have effect on the coming election which is scheduled to be held from 22nd to 24th Nov.

Mother Teresa is now well and has joined humanatarian works.

Glad to know that you are busy with your reading, writing and drawing. How are you? Please drop a line about your safety and health.

'am not yet well. Moreover no servant to assit me.

Please accept Puja greetings from me and my cousin Mr Bose.

No more for the present.

With heartiest love and regards.

Yours Sincerely

Sipra

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta 700019
12.12.89

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Thanks for your nice christmas card along with a short note.

Yes, we were so long anxiously waiting the final result of election. Though we knew that none of the parties would secure majority seats to form the ministry. That has come true. Rajiv has lost. Present government has been formed with the support of C.P.I.M. (Leftist Parties) and B.J.P. (Bharatiya Janata Party)

Present Prime Minister is too honest, intelligent, gentle, and has come from a Raj (Royal) family. But he is surrounded by some opportunists and greedy fellows. He was the foreign minister and the finance minister of Rajiv's ministry. He was also the minister in Indira Gandhi's cabinet. He resigned from Rajiv's ministry for various corruption in those two departments. He wanted to check all evils, but Rajiv opposed this policy. So he resigned and to save India from all corruptions he started one new Party including all opposition parties. The outcome of his hard struggle, is the present phenomenal success.

All those industrialists or smugglers against whom

sent Prime Minister V. P. Singh took action, just after election result came out, came down to Delhi from Bombay spending money like water to purchase M.P.s and put Rajiv again in the ministry. They spent 100 crores after this purpose. As Mr V. P. Singh is very intelligent, he tactfully over came it. They are afraid that Mr V. P. Singh will not allow corruptions.

Even now, we are not sure, how long present govt. will survive. Because, Rajiv and these Capitalists are trying their utmost to pull down this Govt. by purchasing M.P. with big sums of money. Moreover the C.P.I.M. Party is treacherous and opportunist. As they betrayed, so in 1977 Janata Govt fell. So this time also, nobody can rely on them. But Mr V. P. Singh is too honest. He won't be the head of any Govt where he will find any corruption.

We are expecting early next year, there may be another general election, then some party may come out with major seats. Then they can run smoothly the Govt. But present Govt can't do it. Because they had to please those parties who are supporting them, they are many in mind and act. Of course, there are some very honest people. But you know, in this age, number of good persons are very few

and nobody wants to listen to them. Mr Singh had taken some very good objective to solve some very important problem of India.

After the election result has come out, Rajiv had ordered to withdraw case against those elite people of the society whom he prosecuted as liable for the murder of Indira Gandhi. He already hanged two innocent persons. Everybody knows his wife murdered his mother. To divert the public attention, he started these cases. Now the Govt, is changed. He is scared that New Govt may bring prosecution case against his wife, so he withdrew these cases. One of them was Retd. I. P. S. (Indian Police Service) officer i.e. I. G. another one was a renowned social worker, other two were renowned Professor of Bombay, who lost their jobs as they were arrested as murderer, which is not true.

Economic condition of India is very bad. Rajiv borrowed money from different countries, but did not spend those for the improvement of the country, but sent those to his in-law's country (Italy) for his future. Only God knows what would happen in India in future

In the history of India, never so many people were murdered or wounded as this year. More than 300 hundred people had been murdered 1000 wounded. All sorts of corruption had been ripe in Rajiv's polling booth centres where maximum people had been murdered and wounded. One renowned leader of U.P had been gunned down so seriously that his life is not yet out of danger. Now he has been sent to London for treatment. He tried to murder even V.P. Singh during election campaign. Lukily God saved him.

Now it is too cold here. Hope, you are also getting cold there.

How are you with your writing and painting? More than 3 months, 'am without any servant. So you can imagine, a patient of a chronic Bronchritis how 'am living.

Yes, my cousin has holidays during Christmas. But without any servant, we will get very little rest.

Wishing you happy new year with good health and spirit.

Yours afftly

Sipra

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta - 700019
15.2.90

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Your letter of 22.12.89 reached me on Jan 23rd. Glad to go through your nice letter full with news.

Thanks for the picture card of Monterey Peninsula. It tempts me to see the natural beauty with my own eyes. But I am afraid such an opportunity may not come in near future as I am over burdened with various problems.

I agree with you that in the very beginning communism was ideal, but power corrupts. So now almost all communist countries want to get rid of communism. I hope, in near future communism will vanish from the world. Communism in West Bengal, is nothing but the dictatorship of her Chief Minister. Those who are in power have been living lavish, luxury life, whereas those who are really party worker their condition is very bad. The allowance, they used to get from their party, is not sufficient to maintain a family. Moreover whenever there is any struggle between two ~~opposition~~ opposite parties, these poor cadres are first target of death. But the family of deceased communist gets no help from the party. These poor youths find that they have no

future prospect. Their leaders instigate them to do all sorts of hooliganism the result of which these poor youth lose their lives. So they have become very much disgusted and have been leaving that communist Party and are joining Bharatiya Janata Party. The result is that the Party has announced recently their increased allowance which are very tempting along with other benefits. God knows if in this way, whether the Party can check the rot. Those who are really faithful communist, their condition is very wretched. And those who are in power, a few years back, most of them were from very low middle class or poor class, but now pupped up like baloons. Now they are rich.

The condition of India is very bad. The War may break out at anytime with Pakistan. This war will not be confined only between India and Pakistan, but all muslim countries may join Pakistan. And those muslims who have entered into India from Bangladesh and Pakistan, they will subotage from inside. So the future of India is very grave.

The new Govt is supported by various different parties. Their ways and views are different. So it is very difficult for Mr V. P. Singh to carry on his work smoothly by satisfying all. Let us see and wait for the

future.

Not only in our house, almost every house there is a minial problem. They can't get good food and clothings, even then they don't want to do minial's job. Now they feel it below dignity. My old aunty whose age is 87, in her house also no minial. She lives with her a bachalor ailing son only. Such is the condition of the country. Not only that, now-a-days, in some rich business men's house, the servants murdered their mistress in the absence of their master and ran away with jewellery and money. So security is also a problem.

I will be very glad if you visit India again to see the difference of India visited and re-visited. Prices of things are rising everyday. Nothing in eatables which is not adulterated.

In every letter, 'am critisising India. It is ashmed of me, to say that the political leaders are responsible for this all-pervading deterioration in the country.

Winter has gone. Load Shedding did not spare us even in the winter.

How are you? How is your creative work going on? With best regard and love, yours Sincerely

Sitara

18th April '90

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta - 700019

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Wish you a happy Bengali New Year.

(15th April '90)

Received your letter, but sorry for the delay in reply, because of unavoidable circumstances.

Mrs Bhutto to keep her premiership, has been trying to indulge in a war against India. Everyday's news in our Papers, is that the Pakistan Army has been advancing step by step. Our leaders have taken a very grim view of the situation and tightening belt. God only knows about the outcome. Though no other country in the World is supporting the Pak Stand.

From the last decade of Indira Gandhi's regime to the last day of Rajiv's premiership, our country has been deteriorting gradually in morals and in all other respects. Indira Gandhi had to yeild to all kinds of misdeeds and illegal deeds of her followers, causing the present anarchy in the country.

Servant problem has become so acute in this country now-a-days for the following reasons.

Now-a-days, no family likes to allow the servant

free movement outside the house, for the danger that he may contact roughs outside. In that event, a servant becomes menace in the family, as he commits any kind of crime, not excluding the murdering the master or mistress. I have much experience of this kind which has made me very shy on the problem. Though we always behave with a servant as a member of the family and he enjoys all amenities of the family like ourselves, handsome salary, good food, good clothings good behaviour etc, yet they prefer the advice of the outside criminals and indulge in bugery and robbing etc.

Summer and loadshedding are going togather I am writing this letter in the darkness of load-shedding which started from 5-30 P.M and know not when it will end. We can't enjoy T.V. programmes due to loadshedding.

The cry of a war, has made the prices of things soaring.

Glad to know that your creative works are going on.

Hope you are in good health and spirit where-

from we are deprived, because of the condition of the country.

With kindest regards and love from myself and my cousin.

Yours
afftly
Sipra

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta – 700019
6.6.90

Dear Mrs Dickie,

I am so glad at the promptness of your reply to my letter. Yours of 28th April was received by me on 12th May. You would kindly excuse my delay in replying to yours.

Like human nature phenomenal change in the climate of our country is also seen. In the first part of ~~winter~~, Summer, we had severe cold. Now we are having Summer with rainy season. This atmospheric change, cannot be explained by the Scientist.

I fully agree with you that it is a decade of greed throwing to the wind all moral sentiment. Now-a-days, I think the whole world is almost alike in this respect. King Richard III wanted to give his Kingdom only for a horse. Similarly, leaders specially ours, can stake everything for a 'vote' no matter what will become of the country in future. In our country, if a leader can return in an assembly or in the Parliament, it means enough wealth for his next few generations. So it can be

easily guessed the worth of such a leader when the interest of the country is involved.

The predictions contain in our Ramayana whose age cannot be ascertained, are coming to be true now. For example, youngesters have no respect for the olders. To a son parents-in-laws are more revered than his own parents. He has no concern for his paternal or maternal relations. But he is more interested in all respects in his wife's relations. The blessings of the joint family of India has vanished. The students have no respect for their teachers, the brahmin sect has lost all glory and is being treated as Sudras, that means lowest despicable caste. Honest and pious people will be harassed and cheated. On the otherhand, dishonest and wicked people will be honoured and respected in the present world. So the society is moving towards ruination. Young generations are taking drugs and all sorts of vices for want of care and affection of the family.

No other nation in the world knew what was family attachment and moorings. India has now lost her precious heritage

I don't know whither the world is moving. The condition of India is very critical, the leader who is at the helm of the affairs of India, has no definite fixed programme, but only abiding time by appeasing this party or that party or this community or that community.

Hope your creative work is going in brisk speed. Mine is stagnant, the reasons, there is no servant, the sweeper has gone home for over a month. without any substitute.

How are you?

Wishing you a happy and peaceful time and best wishes and regards.

Yours
affly
Sipra

To

Mrs J. Kellogg Dickie,

Puja Greetings

and

all Good Wishes

for a Happy

and Prosperous Bijoya

From

Sipra

&

A. C. Bose

1990

EVERREADY

Printed in India

5/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta - 700019.
30.1.91.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Thanks for your nice card.
Sorry to know about your illness. Hope by the grace of God, you are all right now.

Here is a very sad news. All on a sudden, my cousin Mr Bose left this World on 27th Dec. We did not get anytime, to give him any medical aid. He went peacefully. But I am nowhere. Don't know what to do and what is in my fate? No one to help or assist me.

I have to leave this big house. Since his death, I am living here alone with my dog. I can't live ~~live~~ alone at 3 Lower Range. That house is also much bigger than this one. My sister-in-law does not like to stay in the same building with her in-laws. So my brother and his family were away from my parents. Now she will not stay with me.

After disposing all furnitures, etc, I shall move to an old age home. I have given my cousin's big library, to his nephew. He will sell and take those money.

My cousin was so soft hearted that he did not accept fees from poor clients. He was an affectionate, kind hearted, dutiful person. Since parents' death, he did everything for our property and myself.

God snatched him, when he was almost all cases. Now I am helpless. I can't rely on any lawyer or anybody. Everybody is after money, but not honest. I am alone in this world. Nobody to look after me.

If you reply soon, then write to this address.

I have written three letters to Reva, but no reply. Nobody knows about her. She was very ill.

With best wishes and regards —

Yours
Sipra

5/1 Karaya Rd,
9.4.91.

My Dear Mrs Dickie,

Thanks for your letter with copy of Reva's will. Hope by this time, you have received my another letter.

They did not reply my letter. So we don't know what happened to Reva? It is misty. Will you kindly find out what happened to her?

Don't know whether she became insane. Ranjit was the care-taker of her flat. His wife behaved nastily with her, for which she asked them to vacate her flat in 1984. As they did not move, she came down in 1989 and donated her that flat to Bharat Sevasram Sangha for the benefit of the poor women. But even now Ranjit do not leave that flat after getting repeated notice from the Solicitor of the Sangha. He and his family is the root cause of Reva's all illness. She wrote to me in several letters and also to others about it. So everybody thinks whether she was normal or not.

It would be much better if she would donate something for her poor motherland. Any way, what she liked, she did.

After the death of my cousin, 'am in puzzle. I can't rely on any lawyer, whom I engage, he joins hands with my tenants and try to do some harm. Don't know what to do? I have lost faith in God. Now I find, those who are virtuous, they are suffering, Wicked persons are benefited. In this case, how can I rely on God.

You don't know how 'am passing my days. Everybody wants to cheat me. I want to get rid of these tenants by selling our big house. But no body wants to purchase the same with these wicked tenants or those who want to purchase, they don't want to give actual price. Don't Know what is in my fate! What a cruel and heartless this world is!

I have no rest, no sleep. These tenants is haunted me always.

Our election is coming. Don't Know whether this time any party can form a Stable Govt.

हवाई पत्र
Aerogramme

Mrs Jean Dickie, Kellogg,
428, Monroe St. #2
Monterey
California, 93940, U.S.A.

SECOND FOLD

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता:-
Sender's Name and Address:-

S. Dutt,
51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta – 700019

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रखिये
No Enclosures Allowed

पहला मोड़ FIRST FOLD

How are you? How is your work is going on? No more for the present.

With best wishes —

Yours Sincerely
Sipra

51/1 Karaya Rd,
Cal-700019.
13.4.91.

My Dear Mrs Dickie,

Received your letter. Hope by this time, you have received the death news of Reva. It was another shock for me within 3 months. God is cruel. So all on a sudden the death news of Reva came to me.

After the death of my cousin, I received only one letter from her. I replied that. But after that no news from her. I was so busy with various problems, could not get time to write to her again. Tenants are giving troubles.

It is very sad for Reva, no relation or friend was near to her death-bed. We repeatedly request her to come here and live with us.

After all, I have given up the idea of going to the old age home. We (one of my nieces and a friend) visited that place. It is too far from Calcutta. Moreover, we did not like that place. Now 'am thinking to purchase one flat and will shift from here. Of course, I want first to get rid of my two tenants.

Now I am living in this house with my old dog. My relatives and friends, students visit me and help me.

My affectionate sisters and brothers died. Now two brothers are living who are heartless, Selfish. They did not look after my parents, what about me!

How are you? How is your work going on?

15th April is our Bengali New Year. Please accept my greetings of the Season and a happy new year.

Yours Sincerely
Sipra

Please reply soon with all news.

हवाई पत्र
Aerogramme

500 भारत INDIA

Mrs Jean Dickie,
428 Monroe St #2,
Monterey, California 93940
U.S.A.

दूसरा मोड़ SECOND FOLD

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता:-
Sender's Name and Address:-

S. Dutt,
51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta - 700019.

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रखिये
No Enclosures Allowed

51/1 Karaya Rd.
Calcutta 700019
25.10.91.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Please accept my Vijaya Greetings and best wishes. Thanks for your two letters. So long, I was ill. So I could not reply earlier. Moreover, I did not have any helping hand. Now I have got a maid for whole time.

This year more than a lac people were stranded and thousands of houses were collapsed & washed away after heavy rains. Some districts are badly affected in West Bengal.

Just after Puja ceremony, severe earthquake hit northern portion of India. Thousands of people dead, lost their properties. Many people trapped by the rocky upheaval some 10,000 feet above sea level & have not yet been evacuated.

A big-intensity earthquake crushed to death anywhere upto thousands mountain folk in the Himalayan region in & around Uttarkashi & posed the danger of flash flood in the turbulent Bhagirathi river.

Whatever little resources were available for mounting a rescue operation could not be immediately pressed into service following the collapse of a bridge on the main road artery connecting Uttarkashi town with Batwari and Gangotri.

Uttarkashi, Chamoli, Almora, Pithoragarh, Dehradun, Bareily are destroyed.

The other seriously affected areas in the district are Agora, Raithal, Bhatwari, Maneri, Didsari, Manpur & Kishanpur.

The earthquake was felt as far north as Jammu Kashmir & induced cracks in some buildings in Himachal Pradesh & Delhi. In Delhi, the earthquake lasted over 50 Seconds.

[redacted] (Bengali) [redacted].

During Puja vacation more than 5000 tourists, from Calcutta went to visit different places of northern portion of India. No definite news of Stranded toursits of West Bengal.

Now it is very bad time for India, Either flood or earthquake has affected the whole country.

Since my cousin's death, I can't get anytime to write anything or concentrate my mind in writing.

I am busy to find out a flat for me and trying to sell my house (3, Lower Range). No relation is helping me in this matter. I have to do everything by myself. Of course, some of my friends try to help me.

Have you published your that book, the copy of which you sent to me? At present what are you writing?

How are you?

With love,

Yours Sincerely

Sipra

अन्तर्देशीय पत्र कार्ड
INLAND LETTER CARD

POSTAGE DUE
MTI • RMG 07097 TOUR 14

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75 INDIA 75 THIRTY

Mrs Jean Dickie,
428, Monroe St # 2,
Monterey, California 93940-2241
U.S.A.

पिन PIN

POSTAGE DUE 1.02
MTI • RMG 07097 TOUR 14

तीसरा मोड़ THIRD FOLD

इस पत्र के भीतर कुछ न रखिए NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED
पते में पिन कोड लिखें WRITE PIN CODE IN ADDRESS
प्रेषक का नाम और पता :— SENDER'S NAME AND ADDRESS :—

Sipra Dutt,
5/1 Karaya Road, Calcutta.

पिन PIN 700019

SECOND FOLD

TO OPEN CUT HERE

पहला मोड़ FIRST FOLD

13.4.92
51/1 Karaya Road.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Received with thanks your letter of 9th Feb'92. So long I was busy with my ailing faithful old dog. He was suffering from Cancer. It was very much painful to see his agony. Last 15 days he could not swallow anything except water and milk. He died on 31st March.

After the death of my cousin, he always followed me like shadow. So I could not feel that was alone in this big house. He did not allow anybody to get in, nor did he allow to touch any of a leaf, flower or fruit of my garden. He was so loving dog that all my relatives and friends who used to visit us, are fond of him.

Now this house is not a happy home for me. All the past sweet memories haunt me always. My departed parents, sisters, brothers, cousin and last of all my old faithful good dog's souls always remind me of the past. The dog was with me 16 yrs 4 months.

Again I was suffering from bronchitis. I want to finish my voluminous book. But I can't get time and concentrate in writing. Because my landlord and my tenant are giving me so much troubles that I can't do my own work. Everyday their broker tries to put me in some trouble, so that I vacate this house soon and sell my own house to my tenant in nominal price. So almost everyday I have to contact with the higher Police authority to stop all these.

14th April is our Bengali New Year. My heariest Bengali New year's ~~greetings to you~~. May the New year bring you joy and happiness.

What book are you writing? May I not get a copy to read it?

The other day, I found some of your letters written to my mother who preserved those with her children's letters. She loved you like her own daughter. So only your letters preserved with her own children's letters.

Pray to God so that I can finish my all works before leaving this world.

How are you? It is too hot here.

हवाई पत्र
Aerogramme

Mrs Jean Kellogg Dickie,
428 Monroe Street # 2
Monterey, California 93940.
U.S.A

दूसरा मोड़ SECOND FOLD

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता:-
Sender's Name and Address:-

S. Dutt,
51/1, Karaya Road.
Calcutta – 700019.

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रखिये
No Enclosures Allowed

I have many things about India and the world to discuss – but not in a mood to write to-day.

With best wishes and love,
Your affectionate
Sipra

पहला मोड़ FIRST FOLD

5/1 Karaya Road, Cal-19
2.5.92.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

I am extremely ashamed and sorry for my negligence. Please excuse me. This unpaid letter should return to me from the post office of Calcutta. I can't understand how it went so far without requisite stamps!

Glad to know that you have finished your autobiography and 'am eagerly waiting to read the same.

I am trying to sell my house, but not yet succed, nor 'am getting any suitable flat for me. So long I am trying to get a flat which is suitable not only for me, but also for my old dog. Now I have to find out it only for me.

Of course, Buddhism is a very good religion. But now the Buddhists are not following their religion. For example Burmese. Almost most of the Burmees are Buddhists, especially their ruler. But what is going on there?

All religions are good, but now-a-days people are not following their scripture's command. So all over the world, you will find nothing but violence. People want to live peacefully, but their leaders are after power. They are responsible for the unrest of their countries. What is the result of Russia and Afghanistan?

By this time, you have come to know the news of the death of the great Film Director Satyajit Ray. Satyajit Ray was also a good artist and a good singer. He was a great literator. He wrote many books for children. Ever since the release of 'Pather Panchali' in 1955, he dominated Indian Cinema. With laurels such as the Oscar and the French Legion of Honour, Ray had been the cultural ambassador of India. He also secured India's highest honour the 'Bharat ratnam'.

Satyajit Ray's death has dealt a near-mortal blow to Bengali cinema. It is through his landmark films that the world came to know the different facets of life in Bengal. He ranks with such giants of the cinema as Eisenstein, Pudovkin, Dovzhenko, Bergman, Renoir, Chaplin and Kurosawa. He was a legend in his lifetime and the void created by his departure will remain so for years to come.

It is too hot now. There is not a drop of rain. So everywhere there is water scarcity.

How are you? What are you writing now?

With love

Yours Sincerely

Sipra

हवाई पत्र
Aerogramme

Mrs Jean Dickie,
428 Monroe St Apt 2
Monterey, California 93940-2241
U.S.A,

SECOND FOLD

INDIA
TOURISM YEAR 1991

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता:-
Sender's Name and Address:-

S. Dutt,
51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta – 700019

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रखिये
No Enclosures Allowed

पहला मोड़ [illegible] FOLD

51/1 Karaya Rd,
20.6.92

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Many thanks for your letter of 21.5.92.

At last, Ranjit received Reva's money from the State Bank of India.

The Other day, one lady of a Solicitor farm from U.S.A. has written a letter to Ranjit that Reva's money & property are lying unclaimed. She has written to him that we two brother & sister are the legal heir of her property. She has also sent two documents, so that we sign on those and send back to her. Her farm will take necessary action in favour of us. Of course, we have to pay them huge fees. She has written that we have right on her property & money. But she won't say what right we have as a foreigner. I don't know who is she? Or who is behind this letter. I suspect Mr Baluch!

Now I am writing book again, but don't know when it will be published. Glad to know that you have written so many books. Sorry, you did not sent a single book to me, though I am very much eager to read those.

In your country, the election is free & fair. But in West Bengal, Since communist regime, there is no fair election. It is nothing but mockery of free & fair election. There was a by-election of 8th June. After finding rigging, booth-capturing and misconduct (i.e. throwing bombs, killing voters, beating the election agent etc.) three opposition parties withdrew their candidates and informed it to the election Commissioner. The four-member election Commissioner team arrived in Calcutta to inquire into the allegations of rigging, booth-capturing & misconduct during the Assembly by-election. Afraid of C.P.M. Caders, people could not open their mouth before the representative. Because they know if they would speak out, then in the absence of the representatives, these caders will torture them like anything, burn their houses, ransack their belongings. Here is no law & order.

Your country is not so much corrupt.

The Chief Minister of West Bengal for his own interest, is transferring a part of West Bengal to Bangladesh Govt by muscle power, against the wishes of the local people. Some parties are opposing this decision. Most of the women and children of that place had fled their homes during the past few days fearing police and para-military repression.

To-day's newspaper, I find, Barbara Bush & Naina Yeltsin will visit a Soup Kitchen & help make Sandwiches for the hundreds of homeless

हवाई पत्र
Aerogramme

Mrs Jean Kellogg Dickie,
428, Monroe Street # 2,
Monterey,
California, 93940. U.S.A.

दूसरा मोड़ SECOND FOLD

INDIA
TOURISM YEAR 1991

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता:-
Sender's Name and Address:-

S. Dutt,
51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta - 700019.

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रखिये
No Enclosures Allowed

पहला मोड़ FIRST FOLD

people. It is very sad. We are poor. But what about U.S.A! Mr Bush should look after the welfare of these poor homeless people. Instead of this, he is always interfering to other country.

As I can't sell my house, so I can't shift from this house with so many legal documents of my tenants. The person who will purchase my house, he will need these papers to eject them.

Now one of my tenants has purchased all my brokers, so that they won't bring any other party to me. He wants to get my house without paying anything. So he has stopped to give rent from this month.

2.8.92.
5111 Karaya Road.
cal-700019.

My dear Mrs Dickie,

Received your letter of 9.7.92 in due time.
Once U.S.A. was the richest country in the world. Now what is her Condition!! You have read in the Gita that when the end of this world will come, then corruption will be overcast the world. Religious people will suffer and wicked persons will enjoy. Now, I think, that time is not very far.

Now-a-days, in the Newspapers, either the news of war between two countries or coup. Some greedy people are doing this for their own interest but rest of the people of the country are suffering for it. I don't find any benefit in the war. There is no peace in the world. Each and every corner of the World, there is some unrest. What is the result?

Once Russia was the second great nation. Now Russia is so weak that she is afraid of Pakistan.

To-day's newspaper, I find, the Russian Foreign Minister Mr Andrei Kozyrev, says the cryogenic rocket engine deal with India would be a threat to Russia's security in the long run.

The supply of rocket technology to India would force Pakistan to seek it from other sources, thereby sparking off deadly missile technology proliferation in the Islamic countries close to Russian borders in the South.

In the past, all the Arabian countries were afraid of Russia.

Instead of the development of the economic condition of the country, India is taking loan from here and there.

The condition of India is very bad. Every party is indulging muslims. Hindus are trying to build a temple in the Ayodhya. Muslims are opposing it. And the leaders of the country are crying against it for Muslims' vote. They have been stopped it to erect by the court's order. But Muslims are erecting Mosques any and everywhere of the country without the permission of the corporation. In some cases, there is the Court's order to demolish those, as those are unauthorised construction But they did not demolished, nor any Govt dare to take any action against it. Though in India, Hindus are majority, but their sentiments are neglected. They can't have their temples to please the Muslim's community.

In Ayodhya, there was a Ram Temple, which had been converted to a Mosque during the reign of the emperor Babar. From the structure of the Mosque, (which is called now Babari Mosque) one can find that it was a temple of Ram, not any mosque. It was supposed to be Ram Janambhoomi (Ram's birth place). Muslims never say their prayer there, whereas there are so many idols of Ram, Sita etc. and regularly the priest used to do his puja there. Now all on a sudden, muslims have objected it and to please them, the leaders of different parties

हवाई पत्र
Aerogramme

Mrs Jean Kellogg Dickie,
428, Monroe Street, # 2,
Monterey, California – 93940.
U.S.A

दूसरा मोड़ SECOND FOLD

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता:-
Sender's Name and Address:-

S. Dutt,
51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta – 700019

इस पत्र के अन्दर कुछ न रखिये
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पहला मोड़ FIRST FOLD

also taking their side with them.
Several Hindu Organistations and Hindu parties are fighting against this. The Atmosphere is very hot. The Leaders of the country are fighting for the power, but the citizens are suffering. In the U.S.A. also the same picture. Instead of looking into the interest of his own country, Mr Bush's Govt, is busy to poke his nose into the interest of the foreign Countries.

I am very sorry to read the condition of the poor soul whom you helped. This is the same picture of India.

How are you?

With best wishes & love
yours
Sipra

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta – 700019
21.12.92

My Dear Mrs Dickie,

Thanks for your letter of 16th '92.

Hope by this time, you have come to know about the communal riot of India. Some people have demolished the Babari Mosque. Though people say that it was a mosque, but it was a temple of Ram. When king Babor conquered India, then he converted it to a mosque by putting some tombs on it. No body knows whether anytime Muslims said their prayer there, at least last 50 yrs no muslims could entrer into it. Moreover everyday Hindu priest used to perform Rama's Puja in that so called Mosque. This temple or Mosque is nothing but a political issue for both Hindu and Muslims. After the demolition of the mosque, ~~also~~ now everyday that puja is performing in the same place by the same priests.

Nobody knows who have demolished it. It is a misty. Don't know when this problem will

be solved and peace will come in this country.

There was a natural catastrophe in New Jersey. It was a awful sight. Don't Know whether Reva's house also has been washed away.

We have not received any letter whether her Estate is finally being settled or not.

Hope President Clinton will do some good for U.S.A. with the help of her qualified wife.

How are you in this cold?
I was expecting one letter from you.

No more for the present.

With best wishes an love

Yours
Sipra

S2

5/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta - 700019
1.2.93.

My Dear Mrs Sickie,

Thanks for your nice Christmas Card and the sensible and thoughtful letter of 10.1.93.

Your remarks that the struggle for land & property - religion & ideology were the chief causes of war in the world's history - is right.

Present flare up in India, is not a communal riot, but some land-grabbers and underworld elements are the root of it.

During the December riots, police had opened fire on violent mobs & this had apparently helped them control the situation fast. Most of the victims of police firing then were identified as muslims.

This gave politicians visiting the metropolis a ready handle to beat the police with. And the police, in turn, point fingers at the politicans for demoralizing them.

The Bombay police had been charged with harbouring communal hatred towards muslims.

In his defence, the commissioner of Police, said that while opening fire, the police had no knowledge about which religion the rioter belonged to.

According to police, sources point out that the underworld Hindu had links with the muslims. This gives further credence to the theory that riots were most notorious underworld's reprisal against police under the guise of communalism.

It was a reprisal of sorts against the firm crakdown on underworld activities like smuggling, drug trafficking, gambling and extortion. The police believe that the religious animosity between Hindus and muslims after Dec 6 was violently exploited by the gangs of criminals.

Fires lit up the Bombay sky, there was no one to turn to. Both the police and the ministry allowed lumpen elements of the two communities to take over the city. After this, the land-grabbers are occupying those lands to promote multi-storied buildings and selling those.

Leaders are dishonest. During election, they take money from these people. So these politicians are not taking any action against them. There is no law and order. God knows when peace will come in this country. Common people are suffering. It is the high time for the politicians, underworld

elements and land-grabbers.

So what you are thinking as a communal riot, is not true.

The birth place of Bhuddha, Krishna, Ram-Krishna Paramhansha, Vivekananda, Raja Ram Mohon Roy, Netaji Subhas Bose has converted to a criminal's play ground, All politicians are corrupt So they have no hold on these criminals.

What is going on in Somalia, Palestin, Iraq? What is the pathetic condition of Palestinian deportees? There is no peace in this world.

Hope there will be some change in your country.

I am longing to read your book.

How are you?

With best wishes and love.

Yours afftly

Sipra

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta-700019,
5.10.93.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Thanks for your letter of 30.8.93. Glad to know that you are busy with your exhibition and writings.

Yes, 'am busy with my writings. My one book is supposed to come out in the market within a month. Now it is in the press.

Hope by this time, you have seen in your T.V. the horrible scene of India's recent earth quake. Over 40,000 people are feared dead in a massive earth quake that rocked South east Maharashtra, northern Karnataka, the Southern States of Goa, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerela. 49 Maharashtra villages wiped out. Thousands still trapped in debris. Thousands are in different hospitals.

The quake, measuring seven on the Richter scale, shook the entire area, for more than 22 seconds flattening houses and leaving countless dead.

More and more bodies were exhumed from

the debris. The toll is bound to rise.

Nobody can check this natural catastrophe. The massive earthquake in Maharashtra released energy equivalent to a hydrogen bomb explosion and was apparently caused by the reactivation of a crack in the earth's crust, according to geologists of India.

This quake proved especially damaging because it was geologically shallow, allowing a great deal of earth movement to affect a highly populated area on the surface of the earth's crust, said Mr chris Bowitt of the global Seismology unit in the British Gedogical Survey.

The unimaginable loss of human lives in earth quake in Maharashtra could have been avoided if the Govt had heeded the advice of geophysicists in time. Three eminent geophysicists Dr B. K. Rastogi, N. Krishna and Janardhan G Negi predictated about this in their Geophysical Research Bulletin Journal in 1975.

It seems Communism will be wiped off from the world. What is going on in Moscow? In the West Bengal also, they are losing their popularity.

I can't shift any other place, until I can sell my house. Because if I shift from this house,

I cannot get my telephone connection within two three years which will be very much inconvenient for me. One of my tenants, is doing some mischief for which I can't sell my house. He wants to purchase the house by offering nominal price. Only God knows when I will be able to get rid of him.

How are you? It is good that you are busy with your works.

Please accept my Puja greetings and wishing you health and happiness.

No more for the present.

With love,

Yours Sincerely

Bipra.

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta-700019.

My dear Dickie,

It is long time, no letter from you. No reply of my last letter. How are you? It is too cold now.

My book has come out in the ~~[illegible]~~ library. The title of the book is 'Krishna in the Mahabharat'. In this book, I have explained and criticised the 'Gita' also. Now I am busy in writing another book

Recently, I have read an interestiy book "Janmantarbad" that means one can recollect one's own condition in a former life. This book is the outcome of some scientific research work. Some Americans and one Indian scientists investigated on this matter quite a long time. It is like a novel. I would not believe all these, had it not the outcome of some research work. One can recolled not only his previous life, sometimes long before that. Sometimes laws of association helps the person to recollect his former life. These Scientists have collected the data from the whole world.

Generally, teenager children can recollect their former lives, place of birth, his previous home, his former relatives, even his previous name and relatives' names etc. Is it not an interesting subject? Hope, in your country, there are many more such books. Of course, I read this sort of books which was based on only in India. As this book is written in Bengali, so I can't send to you.

How are you progressing in your writings and paintings?

In India, T.V. violence worries elders. Rajya Sabha members to-day expressed concern over the ill-effects of Doordarshan programmes and alleged that cruelity and vulgarity was being shown in the name of entertainment.

They cited the case of a Calcutta teenager who influenced by television programmes, allegedly killed his father, step-mother and step-brother.

They complained that the minds of children were being poisoned by television programmes. By seeing, the video casets, they are following all these crimes.

हवाई पत्र
Aerogramme

Mrs Jean Kellogg Dickie,
428, Monroe Street #2,
Monterey, California – 93940
U.S.A

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Sender's Name and Address:-

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Calcutta – 700019.

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पहला मोड़ FIRST FOLD

Please do write to me.

Greetings of the season and best wishes for much happiness throughout the new year.

With love and regards

Yours
Sipra

23.12.93

5/1 Karaya Road,
Cal- 700019
18.1.94

My dear Mrs Dickie,

Thanks for your nice card with a letter. Hope by this time, you have received my card and a letter.

I am living in our old house, not in any old age home. Three years back, after visiting the old age home, I rejected the idea to go any old age home. These are not worth living, but to exploit these old people and swindle their money.

My loving dog died two years back. Now I have no more any dog.

I shall have to shift from this house within five months. Because without my knowledge, my lawyer has given an undertaking to the court that I shall leave this house within such months. So, I am very much worried.

My tenants are not willing to leave my father's house (No 3, Lower Range), moreover, they demand huge amount of money to vacate my house. After giving them these huge amount, nobody wants to give me actual price, not even 1/4 of the exact price of my house. Unless I can sell the house, I can't purchase any flat for me. The price of the flats are now too high. So only God knows what will happen in my fate.

In my last letter, I wrote to you that my book came out in the libraries and people are highly appreciated my book. Now I am writing another book. Hope within a month, I can finish it and can give it to the publisher. It is based on "Security Guard". Though I have no dog, but I have Security guard for my safety

How the Director of the security company exploited the poor educated, unemployed young people and poor guards. Without investing any money, the Directors of the company is earning huge amount of money. All Directors are same. It will be an interesting book. No body has written such a book before. How the Directors are cheated the poor supervisors and poor guards without paying their actual salaries etc.

हवाई पत्र
Aerogramme

Mrs Jean Vickie Kellogg
428, Monroe St, #2
Monterey
California, 93940
U.S.A

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Calcutta - 700019

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पहला मोड़ FIRST FOLD

It is too cold here. How are you? Hope you are busy with your painting and writing.

With love.

Yours Sincerely
Bipa Dutt

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta - 700019
1.3.94

My dear Mrs Dickie,

I have your letters of Jan 20th and Feb 10th. Thanks.

So long, I was busy with my last book.

Glad to know that your monograph on California Paranit Indians and their basketry art would be read by some scholar.

Glad to know about your exhibition and was well received. Congratulations.

Your country is not so corrupt as mine. So you are expecting something for your monograph. But in India, we are always deprived from our legal claim.

Economic condition of India is very bad. Moreover our country is over head and ears in corruption and greed. So the publishers are always try to deceive the authors. I have 30 books in the market. Recently, my book on "Security Guard" has sent to the publishers. Hope within 3/4 months, it will be published.

Regarding the publisher, as the cost of publishing is now very high, so they don't take any risk to publish any new author's book. New authors have to bear the whole cost of the publishing But they neither get back their money nor any royalty

Whenever they ask for account or money, the only reply they will have to hear that nobody wants to purchase your book. On the other hand, the publishers are selling those books like hot cake. The publishers are publishing those books edition after edition without paying them their money. So you can understand what is the condition of our country

Of course, I received thousands of rupees when my cousin was alive. After that, they don't bother to pay me. Though they promise me to pay but not.

It is not new system to my country. Renowned authors wrote about this 150 yrs ago.

Of course, I don't bother for money, if I would be allow to live this present house. As I have to vacate this house soon, so 'am worried about it.

Now-a-days, the price of any flat or small house is too high. Any way, I depend on God. Hope He will help me as He did so long.

My tenants are giving me lots of trouble. They don't want that I should sell this house to other person. They don't allowing me to engaged any maid. They ~~tep~~ tempt her with money and try to sloco poison me, or by stealing my things etc. So that after my death, they can purchase my father's big house from my heirs by giving them little money.

Don't Know howlong my tenants will allow me to live. I have to dismiss one after another maid. Now I have decided not to appoint any more maid, until I can sell my father's house. I shall be ~~engaged~~ manage my household works with my other menials.

How are you? How is your work is going on?

With best wishes and love,

Yours
Sitara

51/1 Karaya Rd,
Cal-700019 13.4.94.

My dear Mrs Dickie,

Thanks much for your letter of 13.3.94. Of course, it is a nice letter for me. I do appreciate your suggestion. 'Am trying my best to sell my house, at the sametime searching for ~~any~~ a small house for my future home. Don't know what will be in my fate.

15th April is our Bengali New Year. Best wishesfor a very happy New Year to come. I am sending you heartfelt greetings for the coming year and wishing you prosperous life with good health.

Now I have come to know that my lawyer and his clerk betrayed me. With the collaboration of my landlord, with out my knowledge, they gave undertaking to the court that I would vacate this house in the month of June, which is not possible for me. So I have to engage another lawyer to find out from court document what more mischief they have done.

I am very much up set for this. I am in

dark. God knows what will be in my fate.
They took from me thousand and thousand rupees to run
the case. It was a very good case. Now they
did not return my Brief and the copy of
the Jugement. Both of them are quite old. The
Clerk was above 80 and he was my cousin's
old clerk.

My fate is very bad. Whoever will come to
my contact, he or she will try to do some harm
to me. But all of them get help from me in
various ways. Only God is helping me by some
good people. I am in tension. I can't concentrate
my mind in any creative work or reading etc.

Some people's fate are very bad. Though
he or she is peace loving, even then one after another
problem comes to one's life.

So long, I was worried about my tenats
and my new dwelling place. Now I have
come to know another new problem of my lawyer
and the clerk's mischief.

My relations are not helping me in this
matter. Neither I do ask their help. Of course,
I have good relation with all my relations.

Moreover, whenever they need my help, I always stretch out my hand. But I don't want to go under any obligation of my any relative. It is better to take help from third person which I can repay by money. Then there will not arise any question of obligation.

After the death of my cousin no relative helps me in any way. As my cousin is not alive, so people want to cheat me and put me in trouble to extract money from me.

I am sorry to reply so late. I am so much worried about all these, so I can't write to anybody or to go anywhere.

Excuse me to write a long letter full of my personal problems. I think you not only as my good friend but also like my elder sister.

Now it is too hot.

How are you? How is your work is going on?

With best wishes and love

Yours loving

Sipra.

51/1 Karaya Road,
Calcutta-700019.
20.6.94.

Dear Mrs Dickie,

Thanks much for your letter of 8.5.94. I wanted to give you some good news for which I did not reply earlier.

One party was ready to purchase my father's house. Everything was completed. The Solicitor of the other party gave the conveyance to my Solicitor. Two days before the registration of the property, all on a sudden, the party requested me that they would give me 3 lac of rupees less which nobody would agree.

After the inspection my house, talking with my tenants, searching my deed from the registration office, they were pleased and settled the price. My offer was quite reasonable. The reason was that they have come to know that I am alone. So the opposite party's Solicitor wanted to make some money out of my property.

First he requested me. When I refused, then he wanted to ~~purchase~~ tribe my solicitor and wanted to give him some share of that money. He refused to join his hand in any sort of unfair action and he also requested me not to accept their proposal. So this transaction was cancelled.

You can't imagine how much corrupt these Solicitors are. God only knows when I will be able to find out another good party to sell my property.

Your another suggestion is to shift from this house to another rented house which is not possible. Because now-a-days if I shift to any rented house, I have to give few lacs of rupees to landlord as salame. This money is not as security money nor advance money of the rent. Moreover, I have to give few thousand of rupees every month as the rent of the house to the landlord. But I can't live there peacefully. After a month or two, the landlord or his agent used to do some disturbance for which I have to leave that flat leaving those few lacs of rupees to landlord.

After that, the landlord to let his flat to another new tenant with the same procedure and again drive him away in the same manner. In this way, he is profited lacs of rupees by taking from the tenants. But poor tenants have to lose lacs of rupees which they gave their landlord only on a faith to live peacefully rest of his life.

So now-a-days nobody lives in a rented house. Everybody purchase a flat or a house according to his means. Now it is a new convention to take huge some of money as salame from the tenants which we did not do. We find it from last 4 to 5 yrs. This is the result of the influxion of Black Money.

I have engaged some lawyers and fighting the case against me to eject me from this house. My Solicitor also guiding these lawyers. God knows what will be the result. Though everybody is telling that the case is very good. But the previous lawyer and the clerk took bribe from ~~opposite~~ against party. Now I have to spend thousands and thousands of rupees to revive the case.

Please excuse me to write such a long letter about my personal problems. Only God knows why I am suffering so much! Please Pray to God, so that soon I ~~could~~ will get rid of all these difficulties.

How are you? How is your writing and art are going on?

Rainy season begins. So my health is not so good with cold and so many worries.

with love, yours Sipra,

011 - 91 - 33

+ Sipra's #

247 - 2144

12½ hrs - difference

247 - 2144
Phone : ~~44-2144~~
51/1, KARAYA ROAD
CALCUTTA-19

16.7.1994

your letter of 30.6.94.

could not eject me

the requirment grorend on 30.6.94. Though I Should file the case within 90 days of the judgment for redress. But I came to know about the case after a year. So my present kawyer appealed the case to the appellate court with no hope. But it is grace of God, I win the case. So now I am not shifting from this house unless I can sell my father's house.

You don't know the condition of the flats of India. Promoters any how make a structure and sell those. Afterwords, it is found that those flats are not habitable with so many defects.

Many respectable gentlemen came to purchase my father's house only to live peacefully. They told me that they have nice big luxarious flats. But they can't live there peacefully. It seems, Somebody is hammering on the top, if the door is open then the noise of neighbouring

Sipra Dutt, M.A., M.Ed.

Phone : 44-2144
51/1, KARAYA ROAD
CALCUTTA-19

Dated....14.7.....1994

My dear Mrs Dickie,

Thanks for your letter of 30.6.94. Here is a good news. My landlord could not eject me on bonafie requirment ground on 30.6.96. Though I should file the case within 90 days of the judgment for redress. But I came to know about the case after a year. So my present kawyer appealed the case to the appellate court with no hope. But it is grace of God, I win the case. So now I am not shifting from this house unless I can sell my father's house.

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Many respectable gentlemen came to purchase my father's house only to live peacefully. They told me that they have nice big luxurious flats. But they can't live there peacefully. It seems, somebody is hammering on the top, if the door is open then the noise of neighbouring

persons disturb the peace of their flats. To get rid of these, they want to purchase a house and live there peacefuly.

Some of my known persons sold their flats and purchase a small house in the suburb of the city.

I don't know what is in my fate. I want to sell my house and then to die. I have no attraction for this world.

'am grateful to God that He has given such a good friend like you who inspires me from so far. I have a bitter experience of the world since my cousin's death.

I don't want to worry you about my personal affairs. But to disclose these to you I feel relieved. Please excuse me to disturb you.

We thought Mr Clinton would do some good for his country. Now we find, he is worst of all. Moreover he is a characterless person. If it is in London, then and there he would resign. Now we find, U.S.A. also like India. Unless one dies, he won't resign whatever corruption charges are against him.

How are you? How is your writing and painting

247-2144

Sipra Dutt, M.A., M.Ed.

Phone : ~~44-2144~~
51/1, KARAYA ROAD
CALCUTTA-19

Dated.....24.....7.....1994.

My dear Mrs Lickie,

I am very much pleased and grateful to get your phone call. It is a great surprise to me. Thank you very much

My security Guard first received your phone call.

You have mistaken. I am living in a rented house. After coming from Chittagong, we are living in 51/1 Karaya Road. Afterwards, my father purchased 3, Lower Range. Some of my family members shifted to that house for some time. Rest of the family members were living in Karaya Road. Father had a intention to purchase this house too. As almost all brothers sister deft India or were dead, so he gave up the plan. Those family members who were living in 3 lower Range, came back to this house.

As my parents were in Pakistan, so this house was hired by my cousin's name. Then he was the head of our family.

Since then, 3 Lower Range house was occupied by two Punjabee tenants. Since my cousin's death, they are giving me troubles and want to purchase this house.

Any way, I have believe in God. I am sure this house will sell very soon. Don't worry about me.

My voice is like a male's voice. So you could not recognise my voice. Moreover, you have not heard my voice before.

I ~~was~~ moved by hearing long distance call. Of course, it is nice and kind of you to remember me. You have spent lots of money for this. Thanks.

Now my letters to you are full of my personal matters. After writing to you all these, I get some relief. But I should not do this. It may hamper your creative works. Sorry for this.

So many change in this world and in my country, but now I won't discuss all these. Because my mind is full of worries.

Sipra Dutt, M.A., M.Ed.

Phone : 44-2144
51/1, KARAYA ROAD
CALCUTTA-19

Dated.....19

3.

You are right. My bad time is passing. Don't know whether it will change in my life.

Now-a-days you don't write anything about you? How your works are going on? How are you?

My health is not well.

With best wishes and love

Yours
afftly
Sipra.

My dear Mrs Dickie,

After a long time, I received your letter of 31.12.94. Recently, received with thanks the letter of your 11.2.95.

Sorry, to reply after so long. My mind is so upset, I don't know what to do? I don't write to anybody nor visit to any where.

I have no good news to give you. I have not yet get any house, nor the judgment of the Supreme Court has yet come out. Don't know what is in my fate. After the death of my cousin, God helps me from all difficulties, but now He turns about

I have read Del Karnegee's "How to stop worring and start living by" Of course, it is a nice book. I always engage mind mind either in some domestic works or reading books or newspapers etc or to see television. Because vacant mind Snatches my peace. Books are my best friends.

The house which I like, either the deed of it is defective or it is full of tenants. Most ~~probably~~ probably I have to die in this house.

Sorry to disturb you with my personal worries. Please excuse me.

It is too cold now. Economic and Political condition of India is not good. Price of all commodities are going up. Because the election of some states are going on. Business men have to donate huge some of money to every party. And they realize those money by increasing the price of commodity. No body care for people.

Glad to know you have finished another manuscript. How your paintings are going on?

How are you?.

With best wishes & love

Yours

Sipra.

हवाई पत्र
Aerogramme

Mrs Jean Kellogg Dickie,
428, Monroe St. Apt 2,
Monterey California 93940-2241,
U.S.A.

दूसरा मोड़ SECOND FOLD

भेजने वाले का नाम और पता:-
Sender's Name and Address:-

S. Dutt,
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Calcutta – 700019

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